

UFO

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KC man sympathizes with deputy who saw UFO

Twenty years ago, he saw one, too

RONALD J. OGDEN-News staff writer

It was about five o'clock one morning in 1973, while Hans "Louie" Hansen was guarding Ellis's First Park Bank, that the lights abruptly went out.

Hansen was on the second floor of what is now NationsBank. Not only did all the lights there wink out, but so did the street lights on Park Boulevard.

Aided by the fitful glow of auto headlights passing outside, Hansen felt his way down to the second floor and out the back door of the building to what is now a parking lot.

Then he saw it.

To this day, he does not know what it was. He remembers that it moved slowly and silently. Only a couple hundred feet in the air, it crept up from the southwest. It was circular, and its diameter, he estimates, was 60 to 70 feet. Its bottom was black; no details could be seen. On top, however, a light glowed steadily. It gave enough light that Hansen saw the outline of the thing. He also saw "fabrications" of some kind on top.

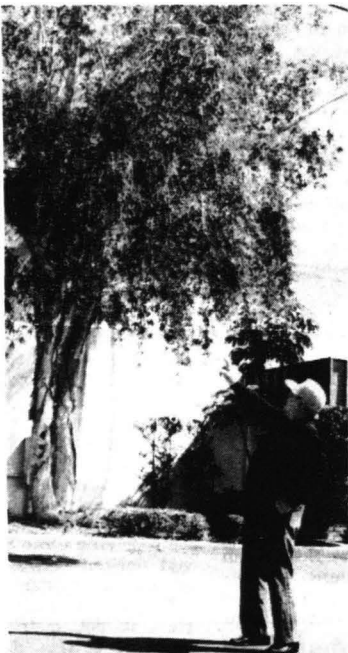
Frightened, he went back in the bank and called Pinellas Park Police. Two officers drove over, he recalls. Together they went to the roof for a better look. But they saw nothing.

It has been 20 years, and Hansen can't remember the date of his sighting. Without a date, Pinellas Police can't find a report.

Hansen, however, can remember what happened next. He called nearby airports, MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa and the

Coast Guard station here.

"They didn't know anything. They didn't want to know anything. They asked



NEWS Photo — By RONALD OGDEN

IT CAME FROM over there, Louie Hansen of Kenneth City points to the sky where a UFO hovered 20 years ago. Not from outer space, it was man-made, he thinks.

me if I'd been drinking," he remembers.

"I don't touch that stuff."

So Hansen, who is 85 and who lives in Kenneth City, feels some kinship with Hernando County Sheriff's Deputy Ronald Chancey. Last week, Chancey and at least six other people saw something in the air above the Gulf Coast between

Tarpon Springs and Crystal River. The boomerang-shaped object was 200 feet across. It hovered for a while and later disappeared, witnesses said.

Hansen doesn't know what they saw. He isn't sure what he saw, but he doubts it comes from outer space. He believes it belonged to the armed forces.

STANDARD OBSERVER, Irwin, PA - June 30, 1993 CR: S. Gordon

Researcher won't join UFO pickets

By LINDA ANTONIAK
Features Editor

Local UFO researcher Stan Gordon says he will not be among those planning to picket the White House Monday in an effort to get the government to release documents dating back to World War II.

"My feeling is that there will be a limited group of people who will participate in the demonstration," said Gordon, Pennsylvania state director of the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), the largest international group that investigates sightings of unexplained flying objects. "It is also doubtful that this group will get serious attention."

Instead, Gordon, who is also founder/director of the Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained, a volunteer statewide scientific clearinghouse on UFO data, said that he and other researchers from across the nation are working individually with legislators to obtain this important information.

While demonstrators of "Operation Right to Know" converge on Washington Monday, Gordon explained that he will be among the thousands of people attending the 1993 International UFO Symposium in Richmond, Va., which will feature speakers from Spain, South Africa, Puerto Rico, China and the United States.

At the symposium, Gordon said he will meet with his colleagues to discuss such government programs as "Operation Blue Fly" and "Project Moondust", which were in operation during the 1960s.

"These operations may be the smoking guns," said Gordon. "Information pertaining to these operations will prove that objects of undetermined origin have impacted on our soil."

He went on to point out that the disclosure of information on these operations may explain circumstances around the 1965 Kecksburg incident.

"Recently, there have been some very interesting developments, particularly with the recovery and retrieval of unidentified flying objects," said Gordon.

According to Gordon, much of the new information has been obtained through the release of records through the Freedom of Information Act. The disclosed data proves that such operations did exist, as well as did others following the government's "official" discontinuation of UFO studies in 1969, he stated.

In addition to working for the disclosure of government documents, Gordon explained that he and his colleagues are

also trying to get Congress to give clearance to government employees who took the confidential oath to testify on such operations and incidents.

"There are many military personnel who now want to come forward about such operations, but are bound by their oath," said Gordon. "They can provide very important information to us."

UFO seen on Pillar Mountain

At 1:26 a.m. today, an unidentified male caller informed the Kodiak Police Department that he had seen UFO lights above the tree line on Pillar Mountain.

The caller said there were "perfectly round spheres falling from the sky, and one burst of light." He said he was positive what he saw was not the Northern Lights. Patrolmen dispatched to the

area did not see anything unusual.

DAILY MIRROR, Kodiak, AK
May 27, 1993

'Spacey' company's agent files suit

By TROY ANDERSON
Appeal Staff Writer

In an unusual case involving claims that a California corporation's officers are in contact with extraterrestrials, Laughlin Associates, a one time resident agent for the corporation, has filed a defamation lawsuit against Edwin W. Durand of Reno.

The suit alleges Durand, a contractor, defamed the company's owners while speaking at a Judiciary subcommittee hearing earlier this year where he accused Laughlin Associates of criminal wrongdoing.

The District Court lawsuit seeks in excess of \$20,000 in punitive and general damages for alleged slander and libel, plus attorney fees. It

also seeks a preliminary injunction barring Durand from further speaking or corresponding with the Legislature on the matter.

Laughlin chief executive officer Lewis Laughlin started out as a resident agent for E.J. and Doris Ekkar of the Phoenix Institute for Research and Education, based in Tehachappi, Calif. They produce a newsletter, the Phoenix Liberator.

According to the secretary of state's office, Cort Christie of Las Vegas has taken over as agent for many of the firms for which the Ekkars are listed as being officers.

Laughlin said Wednesday night his company takes no part in the management of Ekkar's company or other companies which Laughlin Associates represents as resident agents.

"He (Durand) was accusing us of illegal acts and accusing Harley (Lewis' father) of being involved in the Phoenix Institute, all of which are false and have damaged the reputation of our company," Laughlin said.

Doris Ekkar claims to be a translator for Commander Hatonn, whom she describes as an extraterrestrial with whom she communicates. She claims Hatonn orbits the earth warning disciples about intergalactic strife and the earth's destruction.

Durand alleges in the suit that Ekkar "has bilked people out of their life savings" by claiming if they buy a gold box and key space aliens will come and pick them up before the earth is destroyed.

In a motion for a preliminary

injunction against Durand, Lewis and Harley Laughlin's attorney, James Wilson, alleges Durand made the allegation of criminal wrongdoing after the Laughlins were awarded a default judgement against Durand in the amount of \$6,480.

Wilson said Wednesday Durand contracted with Laughlin Associates, whose business sets up corporations for agencies and acts as a resident agent, but allegedly failed to pay the contracted price.

The lawsuit against Durand said he "apparently attempted to discredit and harm" the Laughlins by making false statements before the Legislature that they are guilty of illegal conduct.

An affidavit by Lewis Laughlin accompanying the complaint includes a letter Durand sent to the Legislature accusing the Laughlins of establishing several thousand corporations "with the specific goal to defraud states and the federal government of taxes."

Durand says in the letter that the default lawsuit filed against him by the Laughlins was an attempt by them to take away his constitution rights to free speech.

Durand could not be reached for comment since he has an unlisted phone number.

The Ekkars are listed as top officers for more than 200 Nevada corporations formed since 1991.

Are we alone?

Some close encounters tend to be worrisome

By Jean Bilodeau
Surprise Valley
Correspondent

"Honey, if we're going to die, we might as well enjoy this. The huge light then zipped over us and hovered 100 yards to the other side of us."

Last week over 100 people told their stories about sighting unidentified flying objects in and around Surprise Valley. A few people were able to get a closer look; these are their stories. The numbers at the end of each account indicate the number of people witnessing the particular event.

"We were heading home one night when we noticed this rather large light. It seemed to be following us. It would zoom up to us, then zip away at a tremendous speed, then come close again. After about 30 miles we stopped and decided to look at it with our field glasses. We both had field glasses and could see that it wasn't just a single light, but a series of about 10 lights on a single object. It was like looking at an enlargement of a fly's eye. It was huge, the lights were as big and bright as stadium lights, only they weren't square.

"It kept coming close and darting away, so once when it left I hollered at it, 'Hey, come back here'. It did and it was as if it could hear us. Hopefully, it was just a coincidence. We didn't talk to it anymore.

"Through the field glasses I could see another object just behind it, but it wasn't lit up so I couldn't say what it looked like -- only that it was there. We went through a low pass and lost sight of it. When we came out on the other side it was waiting for us. Eventually it disappeared off to the west.

"When I got home I called my mom, who lives in a town to the west of here, and asked her to watch for it. She didn't see anything, but there were reports of a UFO being sighted in the area that night."(2)

"I was out checking cattle and my horse suddenly looked off to the side. I turned to see what she was looking at. Whatever it was, was about 100 feet off to my side. It was cigar shaped, brownish, about 15 feet tall, over 100 feet long with windows. It didn't have a propeller or wheels or anything. It was flying about a foot over the sagebrush; it never made a sound.

"It kept even with me for two miles. When I stopped to open the gate, it settled down on the ground. It never raised any dust. I rode up to a cabin and got another guy to take a look. We watched it rise about five feet off the ground. It followed the road up the hill and out of sight. I never would have noticed it if it weren't for my horse. It was so quiet, it didn't have wings or a propeller. I was stone cold sober. I'm glad my friend saw it, too. I watched it for about 20 minutes."(2)

The individuals interviewed in this series were from 10 years old to 80 plus. They were

from all educational levels, and many different backgrounds. Virtually all segments of society are represented.

"We were coming home from a basketball game. As we left town I noticed an unusually bright light over a mountain ahead of us. I thought it was a helicopter and we just kind of kept an eye on it. After about 10 miles it was still there, a constant sized light. We lost sight of it and then when we got near . . . ranch it was right above us.

"There were several cars in our group and we pulled over to watch. It was about the size of two cars put together -- maybe bigger. It hovered over us at about poplar tree height level. It was all lit up with a series of lights. On the bottom, which was the only side we could see, there seemed to be something that looked like a fan cover. There seemed to be a dim light coming down from it onto us. I wanted to get out of the car and get a better look but my wife activated the automatic locks in our car. She said she didn't want them to take me away. I told her even if they did, they probably wouldn't keep me long.

"When the dim light hit our cars, the object just zipped off to the southwest and disappeared. It wasn't any of those little jets that fly around here. The next day one of the people in one of the other cars came up to me at a game and whispered, 'Did you see what I saw last night?' I answered back in a whisper, 'Yes, I did see what you saw last night'."(3)

The same incident from two other observers:

"It was about 10:30 p.m., just after a ball game. We first noticed the light about five miles out of town. My wife remarked there was a car coming down the road. I answered that there was no road there, that wasn't . . . pass. Pretty soon we noticed the light moving down the mountain. We lost sight of it in some trees and the next thing I noticed were cars pulled over and this big thing hovering over them. We stopped and the car behind us stopped.

"It was directly over us at about poplar tree height. From underneath it had a bunch of regularly colored lights, roughly in a circle. Towards what we felt was the back, it had two blue lights. It seemed to be making a slight humming noise. It moved slowly for a little while, then zoomed off kind of to the south. It was over 50 feet across."(2)

"It was in the middle of a day and we saw three silver globes going up and down, and up again. Then they just zipped off in three different directions. They were about the size of a pickup cab. We've seen them before, sometimes in two's, three's or four's."(2)

"A friend and I were trapping one January. We were sleeping in a camping tent. About the middle of the night I got up to relieve myself. When I went outside there was this huge round silver thing hovering above the ground about a quarter mile up in the air. It was flattened on the top and bottom and had lights all around. It was very large, about 100 yards long. I watched it, but there wasn't anything I could do about it, so I went back to bed. Besides it wasn't moving or getting any closer.

"The only problem was, when we got up the next morning it was still there, just hovering, not making a sound. Its lights were either off or just

not as visible in the daylight. We got our field glasses and looked it over a little closer. It was the most beautiful silver color, with windows slightly indented all around it. We watched it another hour until it suddenly zipped up into the sky and out of sight.

"From the first time I noticed it until it left, was about four hours. We listened to the news that day and there were reports that a UFO had been seen in the area. A little while later the deputy described the same thing (UFO) we saw hovering about 100 feet above the lake."(2)

Considering the extremely sophisticated maneuvering abilities displayed by these unidentified craft, it might be reasonable to assume they have been developed by a technology far superior to ours. It also might be reasonable to assume that if "they" wanted to hurt us, they would have already done so. Not one person has been physically injured in any of the experiences related in this series. Some individuals were frightened, some never want to see another UFO, some would welcome the chance to have additional encounters, and some have.

"I looked out to the west and here was this huge thing. It had three windows on top, four windows on the bottom. The windows were rectangular with rounded corners. I couldn't make out the actual shape of the craft. I ran to get the video camera and it was gone when I got back."(1)

"I don't have an alarm clock. I just get up with the sun. Maybe that's why I woke when the house and yard were completely lit up. In fact, the whole area was brighter than daylight. I thought it was morning; actually, it was 4 a.m. I walked outside and saw this huge object hovering about three or four feet above the house.

"Looking up at the under side I could see recessed lights in a boomerang-like configuration, with a slightly risen dome in the middle. It was the size of half a city block, maybe bigger. I remember thinking this might be it, and I hadn't planned on the end being quite like this. I ran back inside to wake the kids. By the time they got up, it was gone. They did see that everything was lit up, though. The UFO never made a sound, even when it took off straight up at a terrific speed."(1)

"We were hunting in the mountains with another couple. Actually, the other man's wife dropped us off so we could hike up into the mountains, and then she would pick us up at a predetermined location and time. Unfortunately, it was steeper than we expected and we didn't make it back to the area at the predetermined time. We could see that instead of just waiting a little longer, she must have panicked and we watched as she drove off toward town, probably to get help.

"We eventually got back to the pickup area and my friend decided that he could hike about 10 miles to a home that had a phone and try to contact his wife and tell her to come and get us. My wife and I weren't dressed for the cold afternoon and evening so we gathered some dead sagebrush for a fire. As we didn't know how long we would be there, we just built a small fire and decided to ration our supplies.

"Pretty soon we noticed a rather large light across the valley. The next thing we

knew it was 100 yards off to our left, then it was 100 yards off to our right. My wife said maybe I should put some bullets in the gun. I said I didn't think that bullets would do any good. The light jumped up into the air, then it stopped. I said if we were going to die we might as well relax and enjoy it and see what happens. The light zipped all around us, in all different directions. We did burn all our sagebrush rather quickly, though. It was still light when it started flying around us. We watched it for about 45 minutes. When the trucks came to pick us up the thing disappeared. We weren't especially frightened, mostly just curious."(2)

Sometimes there is physical evidence left behind that something unusual has happened. Burned circles or rings, crop circles, foot prints, and burned marks are all indications that some phenomenon has occurred in the environment.

"One day the yard was normal looking; the next morning there was a perfect circle burned in the lawn. It measured 16 feet across at all angles. Inside the circle the ground was cool, just outside the ground was warm. Nothing grew inside the circle for several months. The snow would always be much shallower inside the circle than outside. It's not a fairy ring. We have seen photos of the area since 1915 and there never was a tree there. Besides, fairy rings don't appear overnight. Later a smaller burn circle appeared about 20 feet away." (Several)

"We have an old 35-foot trailer that we keep near . . . for camping. My partner and I were driving up to it one night and noticed it was all lit up around the trailer, but the inside lights weren't on. By the time we got up to the trailer, everything was dark. There was about 8 to 10 inches of snow on the ground and there were no tracks around the trailer. No one was there.

"We were a little spooked, so just before we went to bed we put a chain through the door handle and hooked it so no one could get in. In the middle of the night we heard someone walking on the roof. It was loud, real loud. The whole trailer was shaking. My partner got his rifle. I got my pistol and we just sat there. We didn't want to go outside.

"After awhile the walking stopped, but we still sat there with our guns. We were scared, you can't imagine how scared. A couple of hours later we went to sleep. The next morning we got up and checked around the trailer. There were still no tracks, but the snow was almost completely melted on one side of the trailer. Then we noticed almost the whole side of the trailer was burned with arc-like marks. Kind of like half moons all along the side."(2)

"I went camping and fishing with a friend and his kids. We got into camp late and didn't start a campfire. The kids just fell asleep. About 11 p.m. we looked up and saw a sphere changing color from amber to red. It went up and down, back and forth, behind the trees. After about an hour it traveled northeast at a great speed. The next day crop circles were reported in the area it disappeared into. Actually, they weren't crop circles, but sagebrush circles."(2)

"I was deer hunting this one particular area every day for 10 days. On the eleventh day I walked by this meadow and

there were three huge round holes in a tripod type shape in this flat. The holes were about two feet across and four inches deep with loose gravel in the bottom. The holes were exactly 18 feet apart no matter which way you measured them. This was not in an area where anyone would play a joke."(3)

"We were walking near this meadow and noticed some unusual foot prints in the mud. There were three toes on each foot, each foot had a definite arch and heel. The prints were about three feet apart, indicating a long stride. The depth of the prints was about a half inch, probably indicating a weight of about 20 pounds. Each print was about four inches long."(2)

Rubbings of the plaster castings were shown to several trappers. None could identify them.

It has been reported in books and popular television programs that abductions do occur. The person involved may experience a strange paralysis, notice electrical disturbances and experience an unexplained loss of time. Many times it is thought that the abductee is given a hypnotic suggestion not to remember the incident. The person mentioned in the following account can't believe he might have been abducted, but is at a loss as to just what happened.

"I was driving along at midday. It was bright and sunny. I was listening to the radio and talking to a friend in . . . on the CB. Suddenly it got dark, which was odd because there wasn't a cloud in the sky. Then the radio and CB quit. I got real dizzy and I stopped the pickup. It was as if I was paralyzed, I couldn't move and I couldn't see. Pretty soon it got light. The radio and CB came on again. The dizziness and paralysis went away and I felt better. The man I was talking to said the CB was out about 30 minutes."(1)

After interviewing the individuals who appeared in this series, it seems as if many of the residents of Surprise Valley and the surrounding areas each had a secret. They each had the same secret, each thinking they were alone, when actually they were not alone. Perhaps after reading all these accounts it would seem reasonable to assume that we, as a human race, are also not alone.

To the many people whom I interviewed, thank you for trusting me with your secrets and that I would keep you anonymous. To the ones I have overlooked, stop in or call; maybe a follow-up article with an even closer look would be in order sometime in the future. A professional UFO investigator and state deputy director for MUFON (Mutual UFO Network), a scientifically oriented group that investigates unusual sightings on a worldwide basis, can be reached at 233-4731. Please call between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. Anonymity is guaranteed.

Phenomenal Sighting Story Published For First Time

For the past year and a half I have written articles for *The Islander* about local UFO sightings. People have asked me over and over again, "Why don't we ever see them in the daytime?" Well folks here it is!

On March 26, 31 and April 2, four daylight UFO sightings were witnessed and have now been documented by a MUFON investigation (conducted by Bland Pugh and Gary Watson) and photo analysis. The witnesses' video taped and photographed what they described as "unbelievable."

A visiting elected official from Alabama, Thomas "Bryant" said, "At first I told myself that what I saw had to be something from the military, but I know of nothing that can suddenly appear, hover and disappear like it did." Mr. Bryant, who withheld his name for political reasons, was at the east end of Pensacola Beach near the area, locally called the "Sugar Bowl," where at about

2:30 p.m. on April 2, he saw and photographed the UFO.

On that same day Martin "Allen," a local resident, saw the UFO. One week earlier, he caught the UFO with his video camera. Martin said, "I couldn't believe my eyes when I first saw that round silver thing racing across the sky. But, when it shot overhead a second time I knew it wasn't a normal airplane. By God, I knew it was the UFO that I read about in the newspaper. It was round and kind of crown shaped with a lower level and a dark red circle in the bottom center."

Mr. Martin's video tape and photograph were sent to Jeffrey Sainio, photo analyst and manager of Imaging Research and Development at the Quad/Tech division of Quad/Graphics in Wisconsin. At the same time, to confirm the sighting, an investigation was conducted by MUFON to verify the sighting location, weather reports, wind velocity, cloud eleva-

tion, wind directions, etc.

Mr. Sainio verified the video tape and the photographs are consistent with the field investigation. He said, "A frame-by-frame analysis shows that the object seen in the first video tape moved so fast it traveled several times its own length in each frame, making rectangular images on the screen. It only took about one second to cross the nearly thirty degree field of view of the camera. Unfortunately the actual speed cannot be determined because the distance is not known, but estimates range from several hundred to several thousand mph corresponding to distance estimates of 1,000 to 10,000 ft."

Mr. Sainio continues, "The initial calculations on the second tape show the UFO accelerated, slowed 20%, then surpassed 2,000 mph, all in under 1/10 of a second." When asked about the still photograph, Mr. Sainio said, "Focus measurements of the image indicate the UFO was a

distant object. The UFO appears metallic, round with smaller round bottom, and a red spot at the base.

"The object accelerated at a tremendous rate...and reached a speed twice that of sound..."

**Dr. Bruce Maccabee
Optical Physicist**

Dr. Bruce Maccabee, an optical physicist, conducted another examination of the photograph and the two UFO videos. He said, "My conclusions agree with Mr. Sainio. The object in the second video accelerated at a tremendous rate. If the

assumed distance to the object is only 1,000 feet, then the video tapes show it accelerated at about 500 g's (500 times the acceleration of gravity) and reached a speed twice that of sound before it passed out of view of the camera. Yet there was no sound! At an assumed 1,000 ft. distance, the size of the object was a bit less than 10 feet."

Both experts also agreed that, "The overall shape of the object resembles, but is not identical to, the shape of objects photographed by Ed Walters in 1987 and 1988, and which were published in the book *The Gulf Breeze Sightings*, in 1990. (Wm. Morrow Press, New York).

There it is folks, a daytime sighting, video taped, photographed and authenticated. It's pretty obvious that something is out there.

All I can say is to keep looking up and behind you, you don't know what is watching you!!! Additional stories, photos, Page 2.

Barefoot on the Beach

By JANE D. WATERS



The Islander Newspaper has scooped the universe. National and international television stations are standing in line, waiting their turn to publicize the daylight UFO sighting, recorded on Pages 1 and 2 in this issue. This story has captured the attention of worldwide media, and now it can be told everywhere, since it has first appeared in *The Islander*.

Many residents and visitors are accustomed to seeing the familiar brilliant lights which race into the skies above Gulf Breeze and Pensacola Beach at night, and frequently, photographers are fortunate enough to get some kind of little glowing dots on their still and video film. But, daylight sightings are rare, and photos of these appearances are scarce. We are delighted to publish this story for the first time anywhere.

A beach resident came home for lunch one day, spotted this incredible sight in the sky from his balcony and rushed to get his camera. He did the best he could to photograph the object which is on Page 2. A little later on, a second person saw what appears to be the same object, and he also took a photo.

Where these photos went to determine their authenticity is a part of this story. Our own Bill Meilner, well known for his photo expertise, did some blow ups from negatives for us, and declares the photos could not have been faked.

We had a major sighting on our hands. Gary and I decided it was time to have the video tapes analyzed. I called Charles Flannigan and informed him of the sighting (at the time Art Hufford, President Pensacola/Gulf Breeze MUFON, Inc., was on vacation).

On April 2, I received another call from Allen, he'd photographed the UFO with his Poloroid camera (at approximately 10:30 a.m.). The UFO had been hovering over the beach to the south of his home. Again, he called me at work and told me about the picture, I didn't even put the phone down, before I called Watson.

On Monday, I met with Charles Flannigan, Florida State Director of MUFON, after showing him the picture we made the decision to forward the video's and the picture to Jeffrey Sainio, Photo Analyst and manager of Imaging Research and Development at the Quad/Tech division of Quad/Graphics in Wisconsin.

Dr. Bruce Maccabee was also brought into the analysis of both video's and photo (both Sainio and Maccabee were given the original of the photo for analysis). The following are portions of Jeff Sainio's findings of the Allen tapes and picture:

Two videos and photos taken over the Gulf of Mexico will surely heat up the smoldering UFO debate. The witness reported something "crown shaped with a bottom layer" zip overhead twice in one day in late March. He left his camcorder running aimed over the Gulf, hoping to catch it. He succeeded the next day, recording a wingless object moving an estimated several thousand miles per hour.

Five days later, he filmed his quarry afloat motionless over the water, then flash toward the southwest. MUFON photo analysis initial calculations show the UFO accelerated, slowed 20%, then surpassed 2,000 mph, all in under 1/10 second. Several aspects of the videos make fakery quite difficult.

A few days later, the witness saw the UFO almost overhead, and with his camcorder batteries dead, got a Poloroid shot. Focus measurements of the UFO indicate the UFO was a distant object. The UFO appears metallic, round with a smaller round bottom, and a red spot at the base.

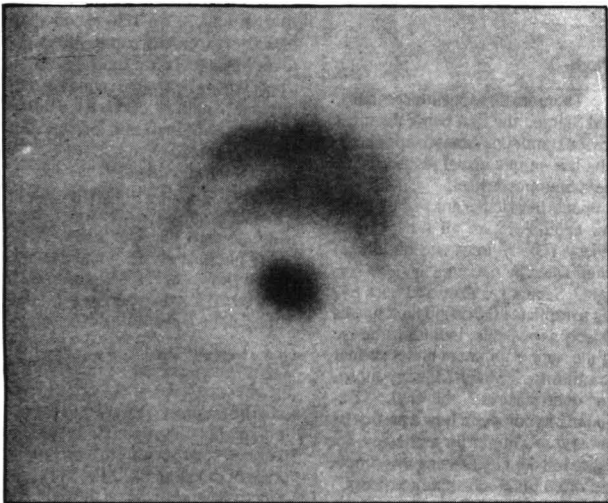
Cloud motion, sun angles, and sky brightness agree with the weather service data for the reported times and camera angles.

On Friday, April 21, I received a color slide and map from a gentleman named Thomas "Bryant", the map pointed to a location I am familiar with, called the Sugar Bowl in the Big Sabine area, the slide showed a beach scene, sand dunes, sea oats and shrub bushes, but most importantly it showed what appears to be the same UFO that Allen had photographed. This map contained a hand written note "April 2" and the time "2:30."

Both Sainio and Maccabee will have the opportunity to analyze it. At first blush there seems to be no doubt it is the same craft. One of the most significant parts about the slide is the date.

This is an ongoing investigation, all of the principal investigators are in agreement that it will probably remain an open book for quite sometime.

Reports will be printed in *The Islander* as they come in. If you have seen anything please respond to: P. O. Box 6111, Gulf Breeze, FL 32562, all responses will be kept in the strictest confidence. Keep on looking up and behind you.



Morning Visit

Resident Photographs Object

by Bland Pugh

On March 25, Martin "Allen," was getting out of his vehicle, for some reason he looked up and saw something coming out of the northwest at a tremendous rate of speed. The object was moving to the southeast. His first reaction was, "It must be some type of aircraft he'd never seen before." Later as he was walking to his mailbox the object reappeared, again moving towards him from the same direction. Thinking to himself that if this thing had come over his house twice from the same direction then maybe it would come back. So he set up his camcorder on his sun deck facing the southeast (the direction the object had gone in both times). That evening he reviewed the tape to only find several helicopters on the screen.

The next day, Allen decided to set up the video camera again, this time with his video camera set up pointing towards the south. He then went into the house to get an apple. Walking back outside, he was amazed to see the UFO coming at him from the southeast. On this occasion, the camera recorded the UFO as it sped across the screen.

Silver Thing Races

Allen called me because he had read the many UFO articles I had written over the past year or so for *The Islander* Newspaper. We talked at great length about the sighting, he said "I couldn't believe my eyes when I first saw that round silver thing racing across the sky. But, when it shot overhead a second time I knew it wasn't a normal airplane. By God, I knew it was the UFO that I read about in the newspaper. It was round and

kind of crown shaped with a lower level and a dark red circle in the bottom center." At that point we reviewed the video together, he has put one of the helicopter sequences and the UFO on a tape so that we could get an idea of the speed and size of the UFO. I must admit I didn't know what the heck it was, the helicopter took 4 seconds to cross the screen and the UFO took only one short second.

At that time I decided to involve another MUFON investigator, I called Gary Watson a seasoned investigator with many investigations under his belt.

Less than a week later, on March 31, I received another call from Allen. He'd videoed the UFO hovering over the Gulf of Mexico just south of his home. On this occasion Allen grabbed his camcorder, ran onto his deck, squatted beside a railing and began to video the UFO. After being recorded for approximately 40 to 45 seconds, the UFO made an extraordinary exit to the southwest. "It was fast, real fast. I video taped it, I couldn't believe this was happening and that it was happening in broad daylight."

Disbelief

Later that evening, he and I reviewed that tape and I must tell you I couldn't believe my eyes, hovering with the sun reflecting off of it and the clouds moving behind it, sat a UFO, the object was silver in color and reflected the light of the sun.

Again, I called Watson, we examined this tape as well. Both of us were completely astonished. The first one had just about blown us away, but this second one was even more awesome. It was apparent that

Experts Evaluate Pictures, Video

Physicist Conducts Thorough Investigation

by Bland Pugh

Again, Dr. Bruce Maccabee, optical physicist for the Naval defense lab in Maryland was asked to help investigate a local UFO sighting. This time he is being called upon to analyze the daytime photo and video taken on Pensacola Beach by Martin "Allen."

When scientists take up an investigation they do so with a thoroughness not usually found with layman investigators. Such is the case with Bruce Maccabee, a physicist with a Ph. D. from American University in Washington D.C. As a researcher for the United States Navy in underwater sound, high power lasers, and weapons lasers, he has the training and resources to get to the heart of questions about the UFO phenomenon.

First interested in 1965 by a book, "Flying Saucers--Serious Business," Dr. Maccabee attended a lecture sponsored by NICAP and offered to join in order to help with their work.

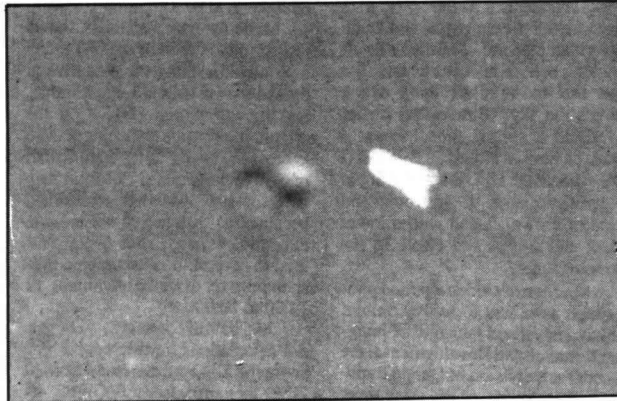
Dr. Maccabee is also on the Executive Committee of the Fund for UFO Research Inc., as well as a scientific consultant to MUFON. After examining the photo and video taken on Pensacola Beach, Dr. Maccabee made the following statement concerning the case:

This is his assessment of the March 24 sighting. "A frame by frame analysis shows that the object moved so fast it traveled several times its own length in each frame, making rectangular images on the screen. It only took about one second to cross the nearly 30 degree field of view of the camera. Unfortunately, the actual speed cannot be determined because the distances are not known, but estimates range from several hundred to several thousand mph corre-

sponding to distance estimates of 1,000 to 10,000 ft."

The following refers to the video of March 31. "The Video shows a compact image with a bright area which may be the sun glint from a metal surface. As he tracked the object it suddenly disappeared from his viewfinder. When viewing the video at normal playback speed the object appears to streak to the right off the screen, almost too fast to see. Frame-by-frame analysis shows that the object accelerated at a tremendous rate. The actual acceleration cannot be calculated because, again, the distance is not known. However, if the assumed distances are only 1,000 ft., then the videotape shows that it accelerated at about 500 g's (500 times the acceleration of gravity, which is 32 feet per second per second; this is about 100 times greater than a jet) and reached a speed twice that of sound before it passed out of view of the camera. Yet there was no sound! At an assumed 1,000 ft. distance the size of the object was a bit less than 10 feet. For other assumed distances the size, acceleration and departing speed are proportional to the distance."

About the photo taken on April 2, Dr. Maccabee said "This photo shows a circular object to the south at an angular elevation of 60 to 79 degrees. The sun in the east made a shiny glint at the left side. In the perspective view from below the object appears like a layer cake with the upper layer having a larger diameter than the lower layer. The bottom of the inside. The image is too small and at the wrong angle to reveal any windows in the side of either layer. There is a slight hint of a protuberance at the top, but this might be a photographic artifact.



Afternoon Visit

Photos Prove Authentic

by Bland Pugh

The principal investigators in the Martin Allen case all agreed. We wanted these videos and photograph validated or rejected prior to any press releases for many obvious reasons. Our decision was easy. Jeffrey Sainio is a relatively newcomer to MUFON. He is manager of Imaging Research and Development at the Quad/Tech Division of Quad/Graphics in Wisconsin. Sainio has also been instrumental in the investigation of the most prominent UFO cases over the past couple of years. In a presentation to the MUFON symposium in Albuquerque, NM in 1992, Sainio had made the following statements thus paying the way to our recent decision:

There are three basic techniques, said Sainio, the first being the most obvious (and sometimes overlooked), which is simple visual inspection of the photograph itself. Do all the elements fit together and make sense? For example, are all the pictured objects (UFO, trees and buildings) illuminated by the same angle of sunlight? Secondly, Sainio advises trying to replicate the original picture as closely as possible, including the use of the same equipment under similar conditions. "Many Monday-morning quarterbacks," he said, "frequently hypothesize how a particular photograph might be replicated but fail to test their ideas using this simple but often time-consuming process."

The third approach involves sophisticated computer analysis that can often be carried out, at increasingly affordable prices, on a desktop home computer, preferably either a 386-based PC or 68020-based Macintosh (or higher) system. Images can be digitally enhanced by computer and various picture elements analyzed for edge-sharpness, color contrast and density and so on.

Sainio further stated: "Despite lower resolution (or less information) than still film, videos are harder to fake and they 'often add another dimension, time, to the record of events,' along with sound, or a lack of same, and a better sense of distance.

On April 12, 1993 the video tapes were sent to Jeffrey for analysis, after several calls for additional information such as weather reports, conditions, etc. and approximately two weeks of intensive test and studies the results were returned to the investigative team, Bland Pugh, Gary Watson, and Charles Flannigan State Director of MUFON. Those results were as we suspected, Positive.

The UFO speed in relation to its size eliminates all aircraft as a cause, since known airplanes can't move this fast. A 100-foot long fighter jet would need to move 300 feet, 3 times its own length, in 1/30 second, or 9,000 feet/second or about 6,000 mph, over Mach 9, below clouds at 7,000 feet. To stay below the sound barrier, a plane length of 10 feet would be required, Sainio said of the first video of the UFO.

Of the second video he said: A few days later, he filmed his quarry float motionless over the water, then flash toward the southwest. MUFON photo analysts' initial calculations show the UFO accelerated, slowed 20%, then surpassed 2,000 mph, all in under 1/10th of a second.

A possible answer to the "Red Light" that has been reported in the area over past years; As to the inevitable question of whether the red bottom might be the nocturnal red light that has been seen in this area hundreds of times, this is difficult to say. Videos have shown that the red light is limited to downwards only, and the UFO photographed would have this property. The problem is that nighttime lighting is so far different from daytime, that the dim red spot seen here cannot be determined to be glowing. Full moonlight is about one million times dimmer than full sunlight, so a sub-noticeable glow in daytime might be a brilliant light at night.

Sainio said about the color of the UFO: The lack of blue in the UFO bottom and shiny spot indicates the UFO simply doesn't reflect blue. It is yellow. I suspect the UFO would look more greenish on a cloudy day, since the dark close side is lacking in red, and is mostly green.

The photo taken by Thomas "Bryant" is being sent to Jeff Sainio for initial analysis.

LEADER TIMES, Kittanning, PA - May 7, 1993

Close encounters in Armstrong

By J.L. MARCINEK
For the Leader Times

There's a sudden brightness in the night and dogs' frantic barking echoes through the hollows of Kittanning RD6. Some residents know what that means — they're back: the radiant, aerial objects that appear, then hover and move erratically over the hills near Shoemaker Hollow.

"Sometimes it looks like one light, then three, moving real slow over the hills," Debbie Reefer said of the eerie objects she said she has seen numerous times since last summer. "I've seen them go faster than a

plane, back and forth, then once three of them almost came together as one, and they all went into the night sky."

"It's weird; it's round and not an airplane," Nancy Stewart said of the strange objects she said she has seen four times since 1977. "They're bright and go back and forth over the hills, then disappear."

"What I saw looked like a beacon light, but you'd see the rays off a beacon light as it turned in the dark, and there wasn't any," Suella Williams said of the mysterious light she said she saw one night recently after visiting the home of her

daughter, Debbie Reefer.

The witnesses agree the objects come at night, although they disagree about the object's general shape. According to the witnesses, they either look like "bright stars, some with a sequence of lights like on road signs" or like "glowing china saucers stuck on top of each other, with a 'band' in between them."

There's disagreement about if the objects make noise — one said she never heard them make sounds, another said she heard a purring, tractor-like noise once; and there's disagreement about the number of objects, but all witnesses agree the objects

are star-bright and they hover over the hills and make sudden turns in directions that would be "impossible for an airplane to make."

When asked what they thought the objects might be, Stewart said: "I don't believe in life like us on other planets; it's a government thing and they won't tell us about it."

Williams said: "I don't think what I saw was a spaceship, but people should keep a record on when they do see these things."

Reefer said: "I don't know, but they looked like UFO's to me"

The UFO Hotline numbers are: 1-800-322-8360 or 1-823-1834.

ISLANDER, Pensacola Beach, FL - June 2, 1993

International Skywatchers View Four Minute UFO Performance

by Bland Pugh

The Gulf Breeze UFO made a visit on Friday evening about 9:00 p.m. I would guess there were between thirty to thirty five people at Shoreline Park during the sighting.

I arrived somewhat late and walked out onto the pier, a friend walked out to speak to me and as we were talking he asked me if that was an airplane just above the Bob Sikes Bridge. I looked at it and confirmed that, yes, it was an airplane but in my peripheral vision I saw something,

that wasn't an airplane. It appeared brighter than any star in the sky at the time and was pulsing. The object appeared to be directly over the Slide/Water Tower area at Pensacola Beach. It began to move to the West at a steady speed, pulsing and glowing as it went.

Several people began to walk out onto the pier with us and asked what they were seeing. When I told them they seemed completely awed by the Gulf Breeze UFO. One couple

talked to each other as they walked on further out onto the pier saying "See honey, I told you we'd see the UFO if we came to Pensacola."

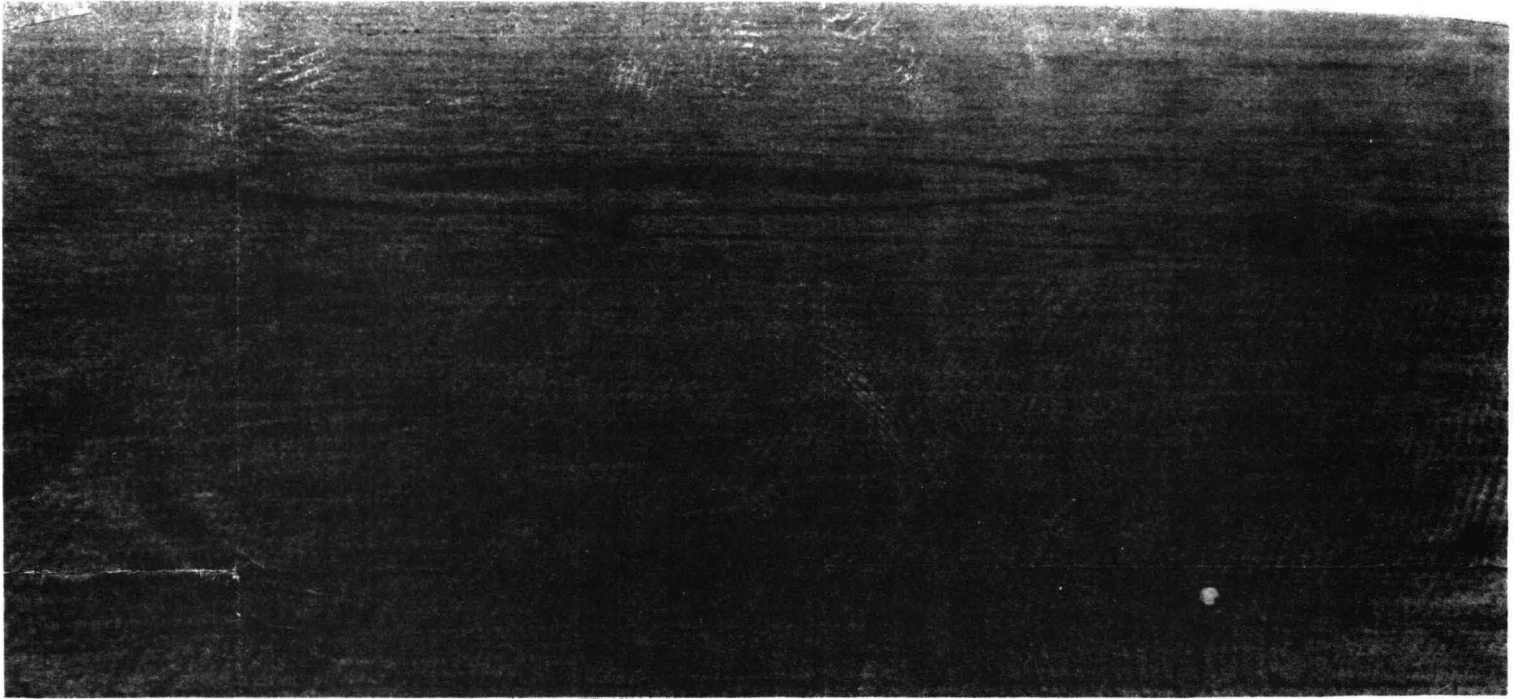
The UFO remained visible for approximately four and a half minutes and seemed to be moving towards the WNW slowly, covering some 20 degrees in movement. It also appeared to be moving towards us or climbing. At night and without a second angle it is very difficult to make that determination.

We had visitors from as far away as Australia skywatching. They seemed pretty excited about the UFO. Most people probably don't understand what skywatching is all about, let me briefly explain it to you. You get some friends together, pull out your favorite beach chair, you know the one that the bottom is sagging in, you get the old binoculars out, fix a cooler of your favorite beverage (non-alcoholic please) turn off that stupid TV set and drive to Shoreline Park in Gulf Breeze at sundown to enjoy the Real World. You don't have to be into UFOs, there's plenty of other things up there that will keep your mind busier than a re-run of Murphy Brown or some other garbage that you might have subjected yourself to. Who knows you might even learn

what some of those things are that we call stars, constellations, nebula, planets, etc.

RE: article written back in January about the hand markings. I asked for people to please write to me if they had experienced anything similar. Well folks, the letters have been coming in and it will amaze you. I will write an article on it one day. The Islander UFO articles are picked up by Lucius Farish's News clipping service. They are then distributed all over the world. I have heard from people as far away as Germany, England, and South Africa. All have read Islander articles.

All I can say at this time is, keep looking up and behind you, you don't know who or what is watching you.



Friends and family members of Cash Wakefield make their way up to the pattern in a wheat field south of Kennewick near the Locust Grove exit of I-82.

Herald photos/Bob Brawdy

Circle in wheat field crops up in Kennewick

Teen claims a UFO visited Mid-Columbia

By DORI O'NEAL and
FAY TOLLEY SMITH
Herald staff writers

It was a close encounter of the wheat kind. An unusual geometric design was carved into a 300-acre field off Bateman Road in South Kennewick sometime Friday night or early Saturday morning.

Was the Tri-Cities visited by a UFO?

"Unidentified walking persons, would be more like it," grouched wheat grower Larry Bateman.

"You can see a trail that leads right up to the circle," Bateman said. "Nothing from space did this. People did this."

Or maybe spacey people.

The downed wheat was laid in a swirl pattern that covered about an acre of ground.

The really bad part of this great crop circle mystery is curiosity seekers are destroying Bateman's wheat.

But Cash Wakefield of Pasco and his son Michael, 16, hope the creation might be a version of the mysterious "crop circles" reported in England.

Michael Wakefield first spotted it when traveling on Interstate 82 to Plymouth Sunday morning.

He'd heard and read about similar appearances in the past and was immediately fascinated with the Kennewick wheat field version. He described it to family members and they returned to give it a closer look.

On Monday, they waded through

the tall wheat and paced off its dimensions.

"I don't know what it is, I can't say," Cash Wakefield said. "But it's not natural."

Michael Wakefield is not so quick to credit the supernatural.

"It's most likely it was made by people and there's a slight chance it could be natural," he said seriously. "I don't believe in aliens."

The pattern looks somewhat like a large one-eyed, hook-beaked creature standing atop a high pedestal.

An inner circle has a 60-foot diameter and the wheat lays in a clockwise pattern. The outer ring of wheat is 17 feet wide with wheat flattened counter-clockwise.

The body, of pedestal, is 72 feet long with two "arms" about 50 feet wide. A long beak is at a 60-degree angle.

Conrad Bateman, who works the ranch with his son Larry, spotted the pattern early Saturday morning.

He checked the land at the base of the hill and believes he found the spot where a couple of people waded into the fields.

He doesn't figure they beamed in from England, although he'd be more than impressed if they had.

It's more likely they dragged heavy 4-by-4 timbers through the wheat to create the pattern, he surmised.

He'd really like to know who they are.

He wants to put them to work.

"If they have that much ambition — I'd give them a job!" he chortled.



LEFT: Cash Wakefield, right, and his son, Michael, 16, describe their discovery while standing on Bateman Road near the circular pattern in the wheat field behind them.

CENTRE FOR CROPCIRCLE STUDIES UNITED STATES NETWORK * WASHINGTON STATE *

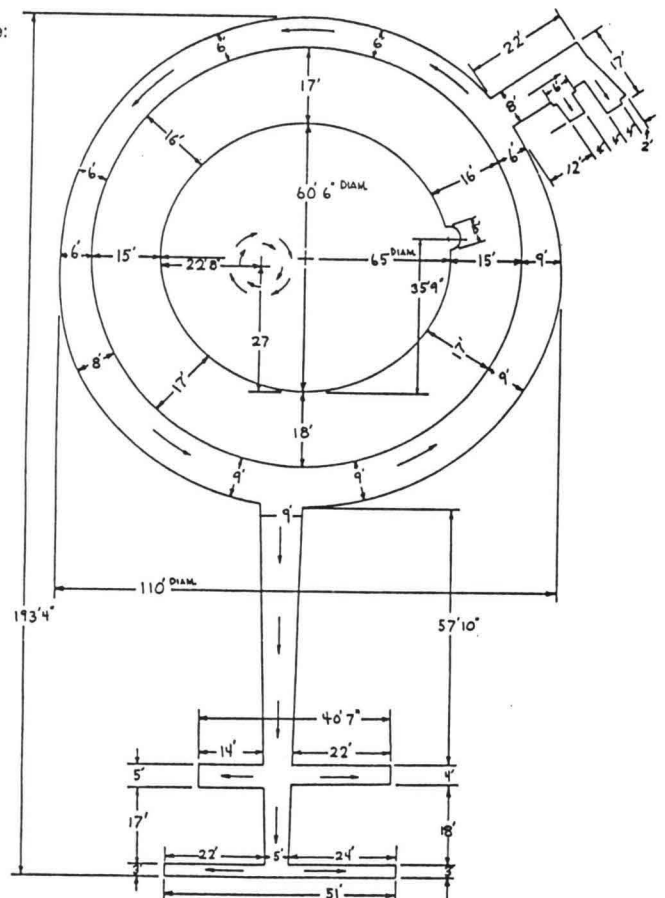
THE KENNEWICK FORMATION

(this outstanding survey map prepared by Jerry Phelps, Kennewick/MUFON)

Crop: Young green wheat

Formation covers approx 2/3 acre:
Overall length: 193'4"
Overall width (E/W) at Ring: 110'
Length of Alleyway: 82'10"
"F" spine length: 22'

Latitude: 46°12'N
Longitude: 119°06'W
True North: from 12 o'clock
toward 6 o'clock;
19° declination



Lays: Circle: clockwise
Ring: counterclockwise
"F": spine: away from Ring; horizontals: away from spine
Alley: away from Ring; crossbars: away from Alley

Kennewick Formation
May 29, 1993

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INK

By DAVE JEWETT
The Columbian

COLUMBIAN, Vancouver, WA - April 2, 1993

Book about UFOs has local note

Clark County has a small mention in one of the most popular books about the mystery of flying saucers.

In Portland last weekend, writers Kevin D. Randle and Donald R. Schmitt gave a lecture on unidentified flying objects (UFOs) and particularly about their lengthy and on-going investigation into one of the most famous of the alleged flying-saucer incidents.

The incident they have devoted years of work on is commonly known as the "Roswell, New Mexico, Case."

They claim to have testimony and affidavits from more than 500 civilian and military witnesses, plus supporting government documents, to support their belief that in the desert near Roswell in 1947, the military discovered the wreckage of a UFO. The contention is that the government has covered up the discovery by withholding evidence, spreading disinformation and using other tactics to stymie investigators.

Anyway, they had for sale at the lecture copies of their 1991 book, "UFO Crash at Roswell," which is in its 13th printing with 250,000 copies sold.

Columbian photographer Dave Olson was there and bought a copy of the book. At home, he was surprised to find a reference to Clark County.

This comes on Page 19 in a historical-perspective chapter. It talks of a flurry of UFO sightings in the Pacific Northwest in 1947, triggering the flying-saucer mystery that believers say continues to this day.

The book details a number of alleged sightings that involved both civilians and police in Portland around July 4, 1947.

Sightings were independently reported from various spots around Portland between about 1 and 4 p.m. An Oaks Park employee reported seeing one UFO, the book says, and at about the same time Frank Cooley, a news reporter for KOIN radio watched 12 shiny, disc-shaped objects as they tilted and circled high overhead.

Then Kenneth A. McDowell, identified as a Portland police officer, spotted five disc-shaped objects overhead. He said they were moving at a high speed and seemed to be oscillating.

Two policemen in a car reported seeing three disc-shaped objects overhead.

Then the book gives this paragraph that caught Olson's eye:

"Across the Columbia River, in Vancouver, Washington, Sergeant John Sullivan, Clarence McKay, and Fred Krives, sheriff's deputies, reported that twenty to thirty disc-shaped craft flashed overhead." (McKay was elected sheriff in 1950 and served in that post until retiring in 1970. He died in 1986).

How the authors got this report from this side of the river is unclear, unless it was from Portland police records. Issues of The



This Week photo/LOYD STILLEY

George Sewell, assistant state director of the Louisiana Mutual UFO Network, plots local sightings of UFOs on a map.

Mystery lights buzz area skies

■ UFO sightings in Caddo, Bossier on the increase.

By MARCIA ROBERTSON
This Week

THERE'S NO BETTER time for stargazing than in the summer. But across the area, residents from Southern Trace to Southern Hills, from Lakeside to Toledo Bend, from Bossier City to Lake Bistineau have spotted something other than stars lately.

"We call it the UFO phenomena instead of flying saucers," said George Sewell, assistant state director of the Louisiana Mutual UFO Network.

"It involves solid, physical, tap-on-it-and-it-makes-noise evidence. It's hard to believe because it's so unbelievable. But we are seeing a lot of activity around the region and we are getting reports of sightings from normal, healthy, regular, everyday people."

Like the social worker leaving Mall St. Vincent earlier this year who spotted a trapezoid-shaped object with blinking lights at the base hovering

over the area. And the professional couple driving south on Youree Drive who spotted an oblong object about 10 city blocks long with three huge engines.

"These people are not crazy," Sewell said. "They are not crackpots or loony. They know they have seen something. They just don't know what it is and why no one else saw it. It leaves them frustrated."

The couple driving down Youree rushed home to watch the evening news to find out what they saw. There was no mention of the object on any of the local channels. The next morning they read the paper for an explanation; once again, nothing.

"They were just like everyone else who had ever seen a UFO," Sewell said. "They were frustrated. They checked all of the institutions they knew to confirm what they saw, and they could not find confirmation. They decided it was best not to mention it to anyone else."

UFO sightings have been reported in the Ark-La-Tex over the past 40 years, Sewell said. Lately he has been hearing more stories.

Sewell, who works with the Northwest Regional Alcohol and Drug Abuse Clinic as a prevention education coordinator, said he often meets these people after he has given a speech to a community group or has been introduced by a mutual friend who knows of his pastime.

Usually, after swearing Sewell to secrecy and prefacing their story with "I know this sounds crazy, but ..." the person who spotted the UFO will tell a story that sounds very similar to several Sewell has heard or read about before.

"I am always amazed by the number of people around here who have sighted a UFO," Sewell said. "They don't tell too many people because they don't want anyone to think that they are crazy. And they are relieved to find someone who believes them."

The object the social worker saw in April fits the description of one seen in Williamsport, Pa., on Feb. 6, 1992.

And the experience a Bossier City woman had fits with one described by a person in Pinesville, N.C. The local

woman said she was leaving the Bossier City business she and her husband own when she saw a lighted object in the sky.

The object made no noise and gave off a ring-shaped glow at the base.

"This was just amazing because some of the things she described have been spotted all over the country," Sewell said. "There's no way she could have known that."

The mesmerized sensation she later described was the same reaction others have had with the same craft, he said.

While Sewell admits that all UFO sightings are a bit unusual, he cannot question the fact that something was seen, heard and, in some cases, photographed.

"People are not stupid," Sewell said. "They know what an airplane looks and sounds like. They know what a helicopter looks and sounds like. They know what a weather balloon looks and sounds like."

"If it is not an airplane, not a helicopter, not a weather balloon, if it doesn't look or sound like anything we have seen or heard before, you've got to wonder: What is it?"

JOURNAL, Middletown, OH - April 9, 1993

UFO lights up Warren skies

Motorists' sightings reported near prisons

By Kimberly Peles
Journal Staff Writer

LEBANON — A silent object that appeared in the sky as a clear light surrounded by rotating colored lights was reportedly seen by motorists Thursday morning near Lebanon and Warren correctional institutions.

The Lebanon post of the Ohio Highway Patrol received four calls between 2:30 and 3:35 a.m. regarding the object, which could have been a weather balloon, plane or UFO, a dispatcher

said.

"If we have a call, we'll send a patrol car out if (possible) and log that something was observed," she said. "Most people don't want to give their names because they think you'll think they're crazy."

The post was unable to send a patrol car to the area because of an accident that occurred about the same time, the dispatcher said.

However, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base was contacted to determine if it had any planes flying in that area, which it didn't, she said.

Two of the four calls that the Lebanon post received came

from LCI, the dispatcher said.

"Anytime there is anything suspicious or intrusive spotted, we report it," said LCI Warden William Dallman, who noted that there is no such thing as a UFO.

Sandra Crawford, public relations spokeswoman for WCI, said that no one at that prison turned in an actual report on the object.

"But, there were supposedly some people (staff members) who saw it," Crawford said.

Calls received by the Warren County Sheriff's Office concerning the object were referred to the Ohio Highway Patrol, a sheriff's dispatcher said.

U nusually F anatical O bservers



VINCE COMPAGNONE / Los Angeles Times

"UFOlogists" eagerly scan the skies for suspected flying aliens at seminar. Below, Glenn Campbell tries to look the part.

Ike Struck Deal With Aliens! Trip to Dentist Was Cover for First Alien-Earthling Summit in 1954! (And if you believe that, too bad you missed the 'Ultimate UFO Seminar.')

By ROY RIVENBURG
TIMES STAFF WRITER

RACHEL, Nev.—In a tent full of flying saucerphiles, a startling announcement suddenly emanates from the doorway: "There's something in the sky!"

The reaction is instantaneous. Telling UFO buffs there's something in the sky is like shouting "Fire!" in a crowded theater.

The saucer believers stampede outside into the sunny desert, scanning the heavens for an alien craft. Some see it, some don't.

Finally, a beefy guy with a flowing beard zeroes in on the otherworldly object through a pair of high-powered binoculars: "It's a . . . it's a . . . it's a Mickey Mouse balloon."

Heads drop and hearts sink. Another false alarm at "The Ultimate UFO Seminar," held last weekend in this tiny southern Nevada town, site of a rash of weird aerial phenomena and even weirder stuff on the ground.

"Please don't make fun of us," pleads a 31-year-old Orange County woman at the start of the conference. "We're taking a serious, scientific approach to this."

Then, after begging anonymity, she confides that short, gray aliens regularly



abduct her and once stole her ovum to breed a "hybrid child." She knows this because the space creatures showed her the half-human, half-alien youngster when it was 5 years old.

She also says that unmarked black helicopters sometimes follow her around Newport Beach.

Remarkably, as the two-day seminar progresses, her tale actually becomes hard to dismiss. It turns out to be one of the sanest stories told.

Other "UFOlogists" link aliens with Adolf Hitler, the JFK assassination and AIDS. They talk about mysterious cattle

mutilations and secret tunnels connecting Nevada to San Diego and New York. And they insist that creatures from the Zeta Reticuli star system are conspiring with humans to form a one-world government.

Their proof is a combination of mainstream media accounts (a 1958 New York Times article about UFOs buzzing Washington, D.C.; a CNN segment on close encounters with American military personnel), eyewitness testimony and wild conjecture.

John Lear, airline pilot and disinherited son of the Learjet family, is the first speaker. Among his revelations (for that handful of folks who don't read International UFO Reporter or the Weekly World News): The military has been hiding alien spacecraft at the nearby Air Force training range since 1947, and President Eisenhower lied about going to the dentist in 1954.

Ike was actually off striking a deal at the first alien-Earthling summit: The extraterrestrials handed over a few saucers and we relinquished "grazing rights," allowing aliens the freedom to periodically abduct and experiment on humans and cattle.

between Las Vegas and Morey Flats, site of one of the biggest underground A-bomb tests in history.

The UFO business has been a boon to the Little A'Le'Inn, which assumed its current name in 1990 to cash in on the sightings along Highway 375. Alien bumper stickers, doormats, cigarette lighters, hats, T-shirts, earrings, paper-towel holders and other trinkets are all on sale. Menu items include Alien Burgers (not made from mutilated cattle) and a potion called the Beam Me Up, Scotty (Jim Beam, 7-Up and a splash of

Scotch).

But proprietors Joe and Pat Travis seem to genuinely believe in interplanetary tourists. Several have even visited the tavern, they say: One looked human but was definitely from outer space because he sat near the inn's four slot machines for an entire day without eating, drinking or using the bathroom.

Other extraterrestrials, according to informed sources here, give away their true identity by consuming mass quantities of strawberry ice cream and green Jell-O.

When their alien bellies are full, they hop into saucers and streak through the sky. In recent years, thousands of spectators, including TV crews and newspaper reporters, have witnessed the baffling, glowing objects that seemingly zig and zag above Rachel.

Skeptics say the unearthly lights are easily explained: The sprawling Nellis Air Force Range is an air-combat training area and testing ground for secret aircraft, such as the stealth fighter, says Philip J. Klass, a contributing editor at Aviation Week & Space Technology magazine.

To the untrained eye, flares, missiles, experimental helicopters and jets all could be misinterpreted as flying saucers, he says.

The military, too, denies reports of alien beings or spacecraft at the range: "How would we keep that quiet?" asks Capt. George Sillia, a Pentagon spokesman.

One of the most surprising skeptics, however, turns out to be the conference's keynote speaker, the reclusive Bob Lazar. According to UFO lore, Lazar is a physicist who worked at the Nellis range in 1988, where he saw nine alien saucers in secret hangars and worked on duplicating their engine systems. He also was granted clearance to read documents about extraterrestrial activity in the United States and was allowed to watch one spacecraft fly.

In 1989, he went public with the story on a Las Vegas television news broadcast and indirectly launched the flying-saucer frenzy at Rachel. For his trouble, government thugs reportedly shot at him and erased all record of his stints at Cal Tech, MIT and Nellis.

Authorities also arrested him for aiding and abetting a prostitution ring, a charge that was later reduced to felony pandering—to which he admitted guilt.

Nevertheless, in some UFO circles, Lazar is practically Jesus in the flesh.

When his silver Corvette rumbles into the conference parking lot Saturday, saucer believers literally sprint to meet him. Cameras flash and tape recorders whir as he steps into the Little A'Le'Inn for a glass of white wine. And when he finishes addressing the crowd in the tent outside, seminar organizer Gary Schultz gushes:

"We should have 10 minutes of silence."

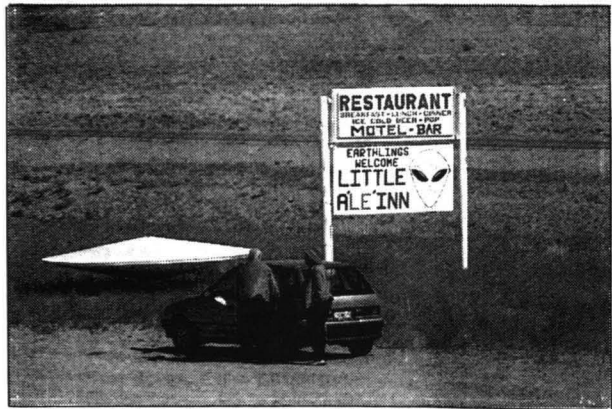
Yet, Lazar spends most of the afternoon debunking his disciples' theories. When someone asks about a UFO video shot from the space shuttle, Lazar insists that the "flying saucers" were dust particles blown across the camera lens by a rocket thruster.

And when another mentions alien abductions, underground tunnels and one-world government conspiracies, he dismisses the tales as "borderline insanity."

It might sound refreshingly scientific if Lazar weren't responsible for the wildest tale of all. In 1979, he says, a military Special Forces officer inadvertently violated intergalactic etiquette by carrying a gun into a classroom occupied by several aliens and 44 U.S. scientists.

When the aliens understandably killed the officer for his bad manners, other Special Forces personnel—watching the incident on a video monitor—stormed the classroom. Alas, they, too, were liquidated. And, for good measure, so were the 44 scientists.

(continued on page 8)



VINCE COMPAGNONE / Los Angeles Times

A couple checks out a sign for the Little A'Le' Inn, where the menu includes Alien Burgers and a drink called Beam Me Up, Scotty.

Fortunately, the government didn't have to explain this tragedy to the public: It had wisely hired scientists who were orphans or had few family ties.

By the time Lazar leaves, a small revolt is brewing at the UFO seminar. The skeptic contingent—infiltrated, no doubt, by government disinformation specialists—decides it has had enough of conspiracies and Element 115, the supposed substance that allows flying saucers to defy both gravity and time.

"They've got this fuel that can bend time, yet 40 saucers have supposedly crashed here since 1947? This is the worst airline I've ever heard of," quips Robert Knight of Bel-Air.

When moderator Schultz denounces the nonbelievers as "pinhead scoffers," they stalk out of the tent and post flyers for a "Pinhead Scoffer's Alternative Conference" the next day.

"You can believe in UFOs without having to swallow the other nonsense," explains skeptic Glenn Campbell, who quit his computer programming job in Boston and moved to Rachel three months ago.

Knight, for instance, is fascinated by the psychology of the UFO phenomenon. He notes that claims of aliens mutilating cattle—removing the animals' sexual organs with "surgical precision"—are curiously similar to 1890s reports of cattle abductions by "hot-air balloons with searchlights and ladders." Likewise, ancient Egyptians blamed stolen livestock on "sky gods." The abduction phenomenon seems to be some sort of Jungian archetype, Knight says.

Then again, perhaps cow privates are a delicacy in the Zeta Reticuli star system—one that alien Wolfgang Pucks are willing to travel hundreds of light years to obtain. Unfortunately, these advanced chefs are too stupid to simply kidnap whole cattle and breed them back home.

Says Knight: "I have a problem with the alien connection here."

Other skeptics are more open to the concept of extraterrestrials, but favor a cautious, scientific approach. Yet, it seems even the most rational in this group can still come off a bit out of orbit.

Campbell, for instance, has written an entertaining "Viewer's Guide" (price: \$15) to the area that is thorough and seemingly objective. But he has also spent the past three months constructing a giant, wooden saucer behind the Little A'Le' Inn. And on Saturday afternoon, he is running around in an alien costume.

Meanwhile, back in the tent, Schultz is ranting about yet another conspiracy. This one involves Waco, Tex., and the "atomized powder" he is certain the feds injected into the Branch Davidian compound to cause its explosion.

The government, Schultz says, should have left the group alone: "It's not against the law to be a kook."

Many spot, can ID 'alien boomerang'

■ What is it? Everyone seems to have an idea — from UFOs to experimental military aircraft to the "work of the devil."

By WES PLATT
Times Staff Writer

Some say the strange, boomerang-shaped object seen recently in the Suncoast sky could have been an extraterrestrial spacecraft. Something out of *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, perhaps.

Others think more down-to-earth (or close to it) explanations are more likely.

Last month, a Hernando County sheriff's deputy and six other witnesses reported seeing the mysterious object over coastal Bayport and Pine Island. After the *Times* published articles about the sightings, more than a dozen people from Pinellas Park to Hudson called to say they saw something similar.

They usually described seeing an impossibly large and silent object, shaped like an Australian aboriginal weapon.

A Stealth fighter, maybe? Swamp gas? Aerobatic planes flying in formation?

Linda Lawrence of Clearwater reported the most recent sighting April 27. About 8:30 p.m.,

she said, she stood in the driveway with her husband, Randy. She glimpsed a V-shaped object with bluish-white lights in the sky.

"It was moving pretty steady, kind of streaking through the sky," she said. "It was gone in a minute or two. I didn't know what it was. It didn't look like a plane or a helicopter. I didn't immediately think UFO. Tell people you saw a UFO and they think you're crazy."

Gary Posner, founder of the Tampa Bay Skeptics, said he doubts the unidentified flying object was a space hot rod capable of going from zero to light speed in nothing flat.

"I have no idea what the thing is," Posner said. "Maybe someone was playing a joke. Maybe it was a plane in the area for one of the air shows, creating a little UFO mischief. I consider that a

much more likely explanation than beings from another planet deciding to hover over Bayport, Florida."

Jim Greenen disagrees. To say the least. According to Greenen, the 51-year-old owner of what he calls "the largest UFO museum in the world," the Bayport Boomerang proves extraterrestrials are coming to Earth.

Greenen's museum is on the second floor of a strip mall on tourist-thick International Drive in Orlando. Above a T-shirt shop. Two doors down from a travel agency.

The museum features photographs and stories of UFO sightings from around the world. A videotape called *UFO: The Best Evidence* plays repeatedly. The swinging restroom doors even have an *Outer Limits* sort of theme: A surprised, big-headed, big-eyed alien squats in an out-house while the mother ship hovers above.

"We've got pictures, government documents and stories," Greenen said. "What we don't have is any actual physical evidence. If I did have that, I'd be yanked off a street corner by government intelligence."

He said humanoid aliens have been on Earth for more than 30 years, offering technology in exchange for secrecy and the right to mutilate the occasional cud-chewer.

UFO investigators Eugene and Jean Brown don't refute the possibility the object is from another world. Alien ships may be attracted to our area by the Crystal River nuclear power plant in Citrus County, they said.

But they don't believe Greenen's theory that aliens live among us, galactic nannies spoon-feeding us technology.

The Browns are UFO investigators with the Pinellas County branch of the Mutual UFO Network, MUFON, a non-profit corporation based in Texas, serves as an international sightings clearinghouse. In 1992, more than 115,000 sightings were reported.

Recently, the couple met with witnesses in Pasco and Hernando counties, seeking statements about the strange object. At least two, both fundamentalist Christians, refused to cooperate because they thought the object was the work of the devil, Mrs. Brown said.

"I think these people are definitely seeing something real," she said. "I don't know about the devil, though."

One caller recommended a *Times* reporter check the December 1991 issue of *Popular Mechanics* for a possible explanation.

An article in that issue by Gregory T. Pope describes a top secret U.S. government plane, "a black, silent, boomerang-shaped vehicle that stretches between 600 and 800 feet across and performs circus pony maneuvers at air speeds as low as 20 knots."

Since 1989, the article says, witnesses have reported such an object passing over rural streets and desert wastes. It supposedly uses "constellation camouflage" — lights on the hull that simulate stars. It hovers and rotates in place.

And, of course, it doesn't officially exist.

UFO abduction claimed by woman

By H. SPENCER LONG

CHARLESTOWN — If a report on file with the police department is accurate, some of this season's early crop of tourists are traveling further than ever before to visit town — and they're not using Route 95 to get here.

Donald R. Todd, a UFO investigator living in South Kingstown, told police recently that a 24-year-old graduate student from the University of Rhode Island was abducted by aliens in May when she encountered a UFO near the intersection of Route 2 and Shannock Road.

During a phone interview last week, Todd said he took the case after the woman who was allegedly abducted contacted his office at Quonset Point in North Kingstown.

Todd represents the Rhode Island chapter of the Mutual UFO Network, Inc., a nation-wide organization based in Sequin, Texas.

Todd said the Rhode Island chapter has about 40 members, some of whom are qualified UFO investigators who have completed a UFO investigator's course.

Todd's investigation of this incident concluded that the woman (whose identity has not been released), had experienced an encounter similar to other reported UFO abductions with which he is familiar.

Todd said the girl was abducted for about two and a half hours, but was unable to recall what happened during her alleged captivity.

"It was very classic of so many incidents reported over the years," Todd said. "It's sort of a modus operandi for these people," he added, referring to the alleged aliens.

According to Todd, the woman said the abduction occurred on May 19 at 10:15 p.m. — a rainy, foggy night.

The woman told Todd that she left the university's library after doing some research. After leaving the library, she drove south on Route 2

approaching Shannock Road when she felt compelled to pull over and stop.

Having stopped her car, she told Todd that she looked up to see a large, circular flying saucer hovering about 30 feet above the ground.

There were no other witnesses. "They can do these things," Todd said. "UFOs can redirect traffic using mind control."

According to Todd, the woman described the craft as being about 50 feet in diameter with a series of bright white lights around its rim.

The woman recalled being escorted by two aliens to a blue beam of light coming from the center of the saucer, which she said measured about three feet wide. Once in the light, she was levitated up and into the saucer, followed by the aliens.

The woman reported that the aliens were short and had large round heads.

"The woman said their heads were too round, too smooth — almost like they were wearing helmets," Todd said.

According to Todd, the woman was unable to recall what happened in the saucer and remembers only that she regained consciousness across the road from her car.

Todd contacted Charlestown Police to inquire if any other such incidents were reported recently.

Police Sergeant Tom Sharkey reviewed the day log reports, which turned up no information on similar incidents, and said he would contact Todd if any more similar incidents are reported.

Todd hopes to talk with the woman again and suggest to her that she participate in what he called memory regression, or hypnosis.

That method, Todd said, could help her recall more details of the abduction.

Todd, who has 40 years experience in UFO investigations, said there has been about 18 abductions reported in Rhode Island this year.

STAR TRIPPING

UFO fans look to Arizona for close encounters

By Thomas Ropp
The Arizona Republic

It might have been 2 in the morning when the blue light appeared.

Brian Myers was driving south on Interstate 17 approaching Phoenix.

"Everything went blue," Myers recalled. "Then there was a gold glob that came down from the sky."

Myers, who is the president of International Center for UFO Research Inc., in Scottsdale, said the glob was lightlike but had the look of molten gold as it came into his field of vision at the top of his windshield. He said it appeared as if it were being poured over his car. There was an accompanying *woosh* sound.

"But the sound was inside my head, not outside," Myers said. "It was incredible."

"Turned out this blue light was actually centered over Casa Grande. We got phone calls the next day from policemen in Casa Grande who said they were out on patrol when this thing hit over top of them and they also said everything went blue."

Assuming you believe in UFOs (and surveys show the majority of Americans do), there's a part of you envious of Myers' encounter.

But how do you go about having a close encounter of your own? UFO researchers, abductees and saucer buffs are far from unanimous in their suggestions. Ralph LaGuardia, a Connecticut volunteer state investigator for the independent Mutual UFO Network Inc., has compared looking for UFOs to trying to find tornadoes: You know they are in Kansas, but where do you go to wait for one?

Some good sites

On the other hand, those in the know claim some types of locations are less of a fly-by-night shot than others. Military bases, Strategic Air Command bases in particular, are considered prime UFO areas.

Other promising spots include power sources, such as nuclear reactors, power plants, high-tension lines, or anything high-tech, especially if new or under construction. Large bodies of water are good hunting grounds as well.

In Arizona, Myers and Tina Choate, also of the International Center for UFO Research, believe there is a correlation between areas of known mineral deposits and sightings.

"Especially areas where gold has been mined," Choate said.

However, before you actively covet encounters, you should be aware that the type of encounter has changed somewhat over the past 20 years. The innocuous long-range sighting of the classic cigar-shaped craft has given way to more interactive encounters, or what ufologists classify as CE4s and CE5s, close encounters of the fourth and fifth kinds.

"The emphasis these days has shifted to abductions," Maurer said.

In fact, in 1989 more than 2,500 people in the United States claimed to have been abducted, according to LaGuardia.

Similar stories

The accounts are eerily similar, from the gray-skinned humanoid aliens, who communicate telepathically, to the medical procedures undergone, which usually include examination of genitalia, removal of a skin sample from the leg and, sometimes, implantation of a device.

In Arizona, the Travis Walton case, with its subsequent movie *A Fire in the Sky*, is the state's most famous abduction. Maurer said that as far as he could determine, Walton was sincere in his abduction accounts, which originated in the Heber area.

"The problem with abductions is they could be happening anywhere in the state, but no one remembers them except under hypnosis," Maurer said.

Missing-time cases are also more prevalent. This is where someone will be driving in a known sighting area one moment and then suddenly be 100 miles away without remembering how he got there.

Sgt. Ron Benson of the Pima County Sheriff's Department said his office receives "a few" UFO reports per month, and that there tend to be more reports in the summer than the winter.

"When I was out in the field checking these out, it seemed most of them dealt with landings on the western end of the Santa Catalina Mountains," Benson said.

He said he has never personally had an encounter, but adds, "But I'd sure like to."

So would a group of believers who plan to picket the White House on Monday in an attempt to urge President Clinton to release



ARIZONA'S FAVORITE STOPS FOR INTERGALACTIC RVS

The best bet for having an encounter is to hang around areas that have been hotbeds of UFO activity. And though you might not want to plan a whole vacation around saucer-spotting, you could, at least, keep your eyes peeled next time you're in one of these Arizona locations:

20,000 pages of UFO-related information gathered since World War II.

The organizers of the demonstration, titled "Operation Right to Know," believe there has been an international conspiracy among governments to conceal the truth that UFOs are extraterrestrial aircraft.



CLIFTON/MORENCI/SAFFORD

In the early '80s, this isolated mining community southeast of Phoenix, near New Mexico, received international attention when a V-shaped craft began appearing.

Larger than "several football fields," this giant UFO was seen by hundreds of residents, including about 100 members of the Morenci High School Band while they were rehearsing. Many witnesses reported a bank of red and white lights on the underside that swept back in a boomerang pattern.

The incident that made the wire services was the UFO stopping and shining a "kind of searchlight" into the smokestacks of the Phelps Dodge Corp. smelter plant.

Myers said these monstrous V-shaped craft also have frequented the Hopi and Navajo reservations in northeastern Arizona.

For 20 years, the Safford area has been one of the most active sighting areas in the state.

"We had a report last fall of circular craft being sighted," Choate said. "The odd thing is that three or four are seen at a time."



CASA GRANDE/GILA BEND/SACATON

If you look at a map and connect these three places, you will have drawn a triangle that composes the area of "blue light" sightings.

Reports vary, but amorphous blue lights are predominantly involved. Everything from blue lights on the ground to blue flashes in the sky that turn everything blue have been reported here.

There also have been reports in this area of a blue, oval-shaped luminescence that divides in twos or threes before going back into one light.

"A woman and her husband had an on-board experience outside Gila Bend," said Tina Choate, of the International Center for UFO Research in Scottsdale. "They sighted a huge craft with a blue ring of lights around it. They pulled off the side of the road and the next thing they remembered, they were 20 miles farther up the road."

Under hypnotherapy, Choate said, the woman, a nurse, recalled that her abductors had revealed information about biochemistry and healing applications.

"They wanted her to become an interface with them, since she had a basic understanding of the human body," Choate said.



CHILDS

If you don't have an encounter here, you'll feel like you should. This somnolent, insular community looks as if it fell off the pages of a 1950s science-fiction pulp magazine. It's tucked away on the banks of the Verde River, framed by old cottonwoods and the steep western slopes of the Mogollon Rim. Only a few families live here, employed by a hydroelectric plant.

Childs received a lot of attention in the '70s, when the residents reported almost nightly sightings, many of a rather spectacular nature.

"One of the most amazing was a report we had of a larger craft that was hovering and a smaller craft that came

MAKING THE MOST OF A SIGHTING

The Hartford Courant

Before lifting your eyes to the sky, UFO researchers suggest studying the literature to glean some idea of how UFOs behave. Learn to recognize aircraft light patterns so that you don't mistake an F-15 for a UFO. Comb newspapers and newscasts for reports of sightings.

Most sightings occur during the early evening. And while there's no optimal time of year for spotting UFOs, most are glimpsed during summer. (But that's probably because more people are outdoors then, says David Boras, an assistant to the director at the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies in Chicago.)

John White, a Connecticut author and editor who produces an annual UFO conference, has these tips for anyone who embarks on a UFO hunt:

■ Be prepared to take

photographs or make video recordings. Have binoculars ready.

■ Be prepared to estimate dimensions of the craft as well as its speed and altitude. Make angular measurements to gauge the size of any flying object you see. To do that, extend a coin between your thumb and forefinger at arm's length to see how much horizon it covers. Compare the coin's coverage of the horizon with that covered by any UFO.

■ Have a tape recorder ready.

UFOs are said to make a high-pitched humming or quavering sound. Sometimes there's a fairly loud rumbling as a vehicle goes by, sometimes a low hum, researchers say.

■ Carry a paper and pencil to make notes and record statements by other witnesses. Make diagrams detailing what you saw. Draw an aerial view of the area, including natural landmarks, standing lights or anything that might be of relevance.

■ Be aware of local airports.

out of it," said Brian Myers, president of the International Center for UFO Research. "Then there was a probelike light that came out of the smaller craft and followed a power line all the way down to where the houses were."

Whether or not there have been any recent sightings is anyone's guess, because the residents are no longer talking about UFOs. Deluged by the curious after the publicity surrounding the initial flaps, residents have become understandably mute on the topic.

Increase your odds of a sighting by driving up Mount Graham, scene of the long, embittered feud between environmentalists and the University of Arizona over the building of a *telescopic* observatory.



EHRENBERG

Sightings from this Colorado River community and nearby Blythe, on the California side of the river, tend to come in flurries and last a couple of weeks.

"Last outbreak was about a year ago," Choate said. "It's not in the town so much as the outlying areas, where people will call us that they were hiking and suddenly these three things came up over the mountain."

The area also is known for its enigmatic ground markings and petroglyphs.

"Outside of Quartzsite, on a mining claim, I've seen glyphs that looked like they had a UFO in them," Choate said.



HEBER

The Travis Walton abduction is of course the most famous from this area, but there have been other encounters.

Myers said his UFO Center was contacted by Paramount Pictures for more material when they were

(continued on page 10)

making the movie *A Fire in the Sky*, about Walton's abduction.

"What we came across was a report of a woman who had talked to another lumberjack in the area about three months before the Walton incident, who told him she was seeing things coming in and flying around all the time," Myers said.

There was another report from witnesses who had gone to Heber looking for UFOs, encouraged by the publicity the Walton case generated.

"The report describes an object coming out of the sky leaving a crimson trail, then splitting up into five different objects that headed over the mountains," Myers said.

He said there was also a report that a sheriff's deputy had seen a UFO and investigated a landing.

PAYSON

There has been a good deal of recent activity in this area, including a Phoenix couple's encounter on a fishing trip last fall, when they videotaped a bell-shaped object that shifted direction on a dime and turned upside down.

"A rancher in nearby Strawberry has for years been tracking them on his place," Choate said. "And his wife saw one hovering over his house that was green. There's been a lot of consistent activity in this area over the past six or seven years."

PICACHO PEAK

This is a favorite sighting place for motorists traveling the boring stretch of interstate between Tucson and Casa Grande.

"We had one last July that was from a very credible witness," said Ray Maurer, director of the state chapter of the Mutual UFO Network. "It occurred around 1 in the morning. He was driving from Tucson to Phoenix and saw an object that did a bunch of strange maneuvers. If it wasn't a UFO, it had to be a very high-tech experimental craft the military has come out with."

In 1975, Myers said, multiple witnesses reported seeing a cigar-shaped craft land on Picacho Peak.

SEDONA

Home of the harmonic convergence and crystal people, this region has had more than its share of "inner dimensional" sightings.

"There have been a number of experiences people have had here that they cannot pick up with their physical senses," Myers said.

These inner-dimensional experiences often occur in dream states or altered states of consciousness. People also report craft that appear then disappear so suddenly it seems they're catching glimpses of something traveling between worlds.

Nearby Sycamore Canyon is an inner-dimensional hot spot. Choate said hikers report seeing people on trails who vanish.

"A pilot came to see us who said he had flown over Sycamore Canyon and had seen what looked like a very high-tech village," Choate said. "But when he flew back over, it was gone."

SUPERSTITION MOUNTAINS

Indian legends refer to this area as the home of the thunder gods. Could this be a description of aliens and their craft?

Over the years, there have been many abductions in this area and sightings from hikers.

"It's been a hot spot for a long time," Myers said.

One of the most famous cases occurred back in the '70s, when a rattlesnake hunter, Brian Scott, claimed to have been picked up three times by the same group of aliens.

"This was not a negative experience," Myers said. "He was taken on board and given information on new technology."

Subsequently, Scott became a draftsman and tried to reproduce the alien devices that had been transferred to his memory. One prototype he built was a machine that was supposed to reroute or regenerate damaged nerves.

Researchers at a California university reportedly are trying to figure it out.

WILLIAMS AIR FORCE BASE

Back in 1978 and '79, Choate said, there were so many sightings in this area that Air Force personnel began training for contact.

"They had them set down on the landing field and they had them appearing and disappearing on radar all the time," she said.

"They were in a real state of panic down there," Myers agreed. "There was so much activity they thought there was going to be a landing, like in the movie *Close Encounters*. They were even training people as a welcoming committee."

KINGMAN

The sparsely populated Sacramento Valley area southwest of Kingman has been the scene of numerous sightings and contacts.

"We got three calls from Kingman last year," Choate said. "One man up there said he had been in contact with an alien woman for about a year and a half. Twice, he had dot markings on his body in the shape of the Little Dipper. The marks were reddish-brown, like the color of a burn, after a couple of days."

He said the woman told him her group had been coming to this area for many thousands of years, because they were interested in certain metals needed for their technology that we were not aware of yet.

"There have been many cases where these visiting civilizations say they are here for metal extraction," Choate said.

'UFO' Doctor Gets No Cash But Plenty Of Sympathy

The Harris News Service

TOPEKA — In a 79-page decision released Monday a district court judge made clear his distaste for the indignities suffered by Ottawa's so-called UFO Doctor at the hands of state officials. Nevertheless, Judge Frank Theis ruled that the law in this case exempts the officials from liability and that they will not have to pay Scott Corder the \$669,000 in damages he sought in a civil action here.

Corder's lawyers had argued that the physician was due the money because of the lost income and anguish he suffered during the three years his license was suspended by the Kansas Board of Healing Arts without a proper appeal hearing.

Corder was suspended from medical practice March 13, 1989 for 37 months after state medical authorities learned of his belief in extraterrestrials and faith healing. The state first characterized him as mentally ill, but reinstated his license in April 1992 after a series of psychiatric evaluations.

"...the ultimate decision in this case hinges principally upon questions of liability," Theis wrote in his decision, "because, if anything is certain, clearly and undeniably from the evidence Dr. Corder was damaged...from his encounter with his licensing body, the Kansas Board of Healing Arts, with little, if any fault on his part but a profound naivete of the power of government over his person and his profession."

Corder's attorneys, Alan Johnson and Jay Hinkel of Topeka, had argued in an earlier court hearing that the board and its former executive director Richard Gannon failed to follow proper procedure in suspending the doctor.

As a result, Corder's suspension lasted longer than it might have, costing him \$288,000 in foregone income; \$25,000 in lost equity when his home was repossessed; \$56,000 in interest the income and equity might have earned; and \$300,000 for various forms of mental anguish.

According to Hinkel the suffering included, loss of appetite, irritability, loss of self-respect, and the anxiety of watching his patients suffer, most of whom were elderly and relied on him for medi-

cal and emotional support. "They suffered and he suffered."

Corder sought the damages as extension of a civil action he filed in 1990 fighting his suspension.

Assistant Attorney General John Campbell had argued that the state is obliged to be certain doctors are mentally competent and that the delay in Corder's suspension hearing was justified because Corder repeatedly refused mental evaluations.

"The delay did not occur in a

vacuum," Campbell told the judge, citing a letter written by Corder to the Defense Intelligence Agency and several other government bodies during the contested interval.

The letter, which Corder's lawyers characterized as "predictions and warnings," was investigated by the U.S. Secret Service, but no action was taken.

The assignment of legal costs will be made after a later hearing.

NEWS-LEADER, Springfield, MO - June 27, 1993

Woman recounts her story of UFO

National attention: Missourian Skye Ambrose speaks out about abduction by aliens.

By Chris Bentley

The News-Leader

Springfield is getting some more national media attention.

The cover of today's USA Weekend, the supplement magazine inserted in newspapers nationwide, including The News-Leader, features a St. Charles woman who claims she was abducted by a UFO.

She became aware of the abduction, she said in an interview with The News-Leader, when she was hypnotized in regression therapy by Springfield psychiatric social worker John Carpenter, who also is featured prominently in the article.

The situation started in 1989, because Skye Ambrose, then 41, wanted answers.

She knew she had seen what she believed was a UFO. Glowing bright white, it had hovered next to her car along a stretch of Colorado highway, she said. That was scary enough.

But she said she also knew that she and a friend who was with her in the car couldn't remember anything that had happened in the next two hours after the UFO showed up.

Ambrose, who had always thought people who believed in UFOs were "kind of kooky," thought she needed someone to help her figure out what had occurred in that missing time.

She began calling people and organizations all over the country from her home in St. Charles, looking for a reputable therapist who could help her learn what had happened.

"I was very, very upset," she said. "I was obsessed."

After five days, she found Carpenter, a national leader of the Mutual UFO Network, the largest UFO-investigating organization worldwide, who also works as a therapist and counselor at a Springfield hospital.

Carpenter traveled to St. Charles and began regression therapy with Ambrose. It's a technique he has used with dozens of people who say they have had UFO experiences.

Ambrose and Carpenter said she remembered this: During the missing two hours, aliens had taken her and her friend aboard the UFO and performed surgery on her friend, implanting something in her nose.

Four years later, Ambrose and Carpenter are about to become famous over it.

In addition to the USA Weekend article, they're scheduled to speak next month at the Seattle UFO Research Conference. In September, they'll be featured at Springfield's second annual Midwest Conference on UFO Research, which drew 600 people last year.

They're not kidding about her UFO experience; they both still believe it.

"I'd go to the grave swearing she was completely truthful," said Carpenter, who has hypnotized her five times, and the friend she was with — who still wants to remain anonymous — twice.

He said that she had never read about UFOs or expressed any interest in them to her friends or family.

"That's what I love about it," Carpenter said. "She was like, 'That's tabloid stuff.' She thought all these abduction stories were baloney, until it happened to her."

Ambrose, who gave up a job in real estate sales to become a massage therapist after the experience, said, "Coming to terms with it has been great, just great."

She said it has made her a more accepting, less judgmental person.

"I'm wide open now," she said. "I thought that I was open-minded before, but now I realize I wasn't."

She said she decided to come forward to help skeptics see a "non-fringe person" like her who has had a UFO encounter.

"I really feel there are a lot of people out there who are just like I was before — narrow-minded," she said.

Carpenter said the publicity may help people accept something he believes is occurring fairly often.

"Most people think that most people don't believe this stuff," Carpenter said. "I have found as I've traveled around and talked to people that most people do believe it, or know people it's happened to, or have had it happen to them."

"But because a few noisy skeptics ridicule it and make you cringe, everybody's afraid to say anything."

CR: J. Carpenter

Pioneering ufologist's work inspires followers to carry on

By Thomas Ropp
The Arizona Republic

One of the founders of Scottsdale's International Center for UFO Research in 1984 was the late J. Allen Hynek, a ufologist of worldwide fame.

But Hynek wasn't always a believer. As a professor of astronomy at Northwestern University, he directed the Air Force's Project Blue Book, an investigation into UFOs, from 1948 to 1969. He received much media attention in the '60s by referring to sightings in Michigan as "swamp gas."

But gradually, Hynek became disenchanted with the Air Force's "there ain't no such creature" approach; in 1973, he founded a research center in Evanston, Ill., where he pursued independent, empirical documentation of the UFO phenomenon for 11 years before moving to Arizona.

Hynek coined the phrase "close encounters of the third kind," in his 1972 book *The UFO Experience*. "Close encounters of the first kind," he said, are lights in the sky; close encounters of the second kind are close-range sightings, in which there is some type of reported interaction between the UFO and environment. Those of the third kind are encounters in which humans contact alien beings.

The phrase became the title of a 1977 Steven Spielberg movie, in which Hynek made an appearance.

I met Hynek and spent some time with him in the summer of 1985, while I was working on a story.

I was impressed with his sincerity and no-nonsense approach to UFO research. He told me he never actually had witnessed a UFO, but had no doubts that something was happening worldwide that defied current scientific explanation.

Or, as he would say, "The physical world as we know it is not the sum total of our environment."

He also believed answers were forthcoming. But, sadly, it was not to be in his lifetime: Hynek died of cancer in April 1986.

Brian Myers and Tina Choate, who co-founded the Scottsdale UFO center with Hynek, inherited his research and have added to it with their own.

"I guess you could say Dr. Hynek passed the torch to us," Myers said. "He trained us."

Myers and Choate are consultants for the TV show *Sightings*, and were instrumental in providing information for the recent movie about Arizonan Travis Walton, *A Fire in the Sky*.

The center is funded primarily through donations and consulting work. The center's telephone number is 949-8367.

Close encounters, abductions and local UFO sightings

by Jo Pearcy
Continued report on the
Ozark UFO Conference

Dr. John E. Mack, psychiatrist at Harvard Medical School says, "I regard these UFO abduction stories as having really profound implications for our future."

Dr. Mack studied, in his words, "straight-forward clinical matters" at Cambridge and Harvard Universities. He was among those who regarded UFO stories with what he calls "free-for-all arrogance." He was not interested in talking to anyone who had experienced the UFO phenomenon.

Then on Jan. 10, 1990, he visited artist friend Bud Hopkins in New York City and Bud talked him into seeing "just one" of the persons who had admitted to him that he had been an abductee. "These people need help," Bud pleaded. "They've taken so much mental abuse from those who don't believe their stories, they doubt their own experiences."

At this time, Dr. Mack has seen over 100 people who claim to have been abducted by alien beings. He does not accept just anyone. He has developed rigorous tests which the abductee must "pass" before being accepted as a patient.

He describes these people as "very warm, caring, sane, intelligent people who did not know each other, who reluctantly came forward" and when confronted with pictures of another abductee's experience are shocked. They cannot believe how similar the experiences are.

Dr. Mack says most stories have the following in common: The abductees are taken into an enclosure and are subjected to intrusive tests. At first most are frightened beyond description. They have what he con-

siders "very authentic emotions." Most do not remember details until subjected to hypnosis. Many had experiences when quite young. Their description of the aliens is usually a rather small, chalky-white being (about four feet), with a large forehead, no hair, with large black almond-shaped eyes. The arms and legs are described as quite thin. Most say they do not actually talk, but a voice or pictures appear inside the abductee's head. They do not know how they are transported to the alien ship. They seem to be controlled by being unable to move away or strike out, but are not uncomfortable. Most agree the aliens mean no harm.

Leah Haley's story

Leah Haley looked out over the crowded auditorium and smiled. "I'm so glad to see all of you out there. It looks like I'll have lots of company in the loonie bin."

Like most others who have sighted UFOs, and most certainly those who claim to have been abducted, Leah has been subjected to much ridicule and many open accusations of being crazy. She lost her job three years ago because of it.

Leah has a masters degree in elementary education from Alabama and a masters degree in secondary education from Tennessee. She was an accounting instructor and a CPA, with a husband and two teen-age daughters when her story came out.

Leah's story

In the early 1960s, Leah, her brother and a neighbor child were playing outside when they looked up and saw a spherical object in the sky. It went down in the woods behind her house. The three children ran into the woods and looked for it, but never found anything.

In the late seventys, when Leah was almost 30, she walked into her kitchen and the thought suddenly went through her mind, "I was in a space ship last night."

Immediately the rational mind took over. "No way! That's totally impossible! It had to have been a dream."

During the next 10 years Leah would have sudden flashes of memory of being with the alien beings; of being put on an examining table; of having some painful experiences. She had a problem with her right ear and a peculiar mark appeared on the back of her knee.

In July of 1990, while visiting her mother, a debate developed on the possible existence of aliens. Leah's brother urged Leah to pursue the possibility that Leah had actually had contact with the aliens. But on the way home, Leah felt again that the whole thing was ridiculous. She must be suffering from stress overload. It just couldn't be real. She decided to drop the whole thing.

Then weird things began to happen to her. After taking her daughter to town to a movie, she noticed it took her 20 minutes longer to get home than it should have. There were times when she seemed to be in a dream-state. She felt lethargic, almost zombie-like. She had the feeling she was being watched and kept having memory flashes of the alien face with its big black eyes looking at her. She awakened one night to find herself hovering over her bed, face down, about two feet high in a beam of light. Was it just another bazaar dream?

Finally, she contacted Dr. Don Carpenter, a Springfield psychiatrist. He would see her during spring break.

She really hoped he would say she was crazy.

But, in her words, Don wouldn't cooperate. Under hypnosis Leah recalled and vividly described that both she and her brother had been taken into that first space ship when they were quite young. They were treated kindly and even allowed to push some of the buttons on the elaborate control panels.

Later encounters were not so pleasant. During those dream-state encounters, she was taken into a room, put on an examining table and had intrusive tests done to her, some painful.

Communication was done through mental pictures and voices in her mind. Haley described the pictures as like a television rolling with pictures appearing in sequence. They seemed to calm her fears and give her a peaceful, comfortable feeling.

Accustomed to having formulas which balanced and mathematical certainties, Leah was shocked at this seemingly impossible situation. She felt anger: Anger at not remembering earlier in a conscious state --then depression. She kept thinking, "Why Me? Am I the only one?" At the same time she wanted to learn more.

In the spring of '91 during a dream, she seemed to be sucked out of the house as though by a vacuum sweeper. She confronted the aliens and asked why. She was told here would be more of them coming and that she should talk to people and prepare them for their arrival. They explained that they meant no harm, but wanted earth and its atmosphere "cleaned up" and made safe and peaceful for everyone.

The Coyne's story

George and Shirley Coyne live in rural Central Michigan. On this hot summer night they were getting ready for bed at their usual one a.m. bedtime. Shirley had stepped out on the back deck, where they liked to watch for deer coming down to eat corn in George's corn field.

She saw two lights in the far field beyond a row of trees and her first thought was that a car was coming. Then she realized there was no road there and no one would be driving through the tall field of corn. The lights approached the row of trees, lifted straight up, crossed the tree tops,

then lowered again and moved toward their house.

Shirley ran inside where George had just climbed in bed, yelling for him to come out. "They're coming," she called. They both grabbed robes and rushed outside. The lights were approaching faster. Then they suddenly veered to the side and went around the house and toward the front.

They ran barefoot through the wet grass around the house and across the field. They watched the lights until they disappeared. The next thing they knew, they were getting into bed with no recollection of walking back through the grass. They contributed the short lapse of memory to the excitement of seeing a UFO.

They talked to their neighbors the next day. They, too, had seen the "space ship" three different times. When George and Shirley had seen the ship twice more, they began to get feelings that there was more going on than just the sightings.

George's pacemaker was stopped three different times and had to be surgically replaced. Shirley, who had been diagnosed with Addison's Disease and lupus, and had been hospitalized for as many as 40 days at a time, began to feel better. Her symptoms disappeared.

When they shared their experiences with a psychiatrist friend, he suggested hypnosis. Under the hypnotic trance Shirley recounted the story that they both had been taken into the space ship that first night.

George could describe details of that night up to the point where aliens would appear, then he would come out of the trance. There was a time segment he could never reveal.

They both say that Shirley has had other encounters since that night.

Shirley was asked, "Don't these abductions frighten you?"

"Not any more," she replied. "They don't mean us any harm. They cured me."

Local sightings

Though no one in McDonald County had abduction stories to share, there have been many sightings throughout the county. A report of these local sightings will be in next week's paper.

UFO FANS PICKET AGAINST COSMIC COVER-UP

Protesters say U.S. knows of aliens

By Rafael Alvarez
Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — Michael Regimonte of Annapolis is sensitive to the image problem.

He says: "It's not like this is a Star Trek convention featuring the Attack of the Pear People vs. the Great Unwashed."

Yet that's what many people think when believers in Unidentified Flying Objects, aliens from other planets, and flying-saucer abductions get together to picket the White House for the "Right to Know" about out-of-this-world phenomena.

About 50 people from around the country marched in front of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue in brutal heat and humidity yesterday to persuade the United States government to release about 20,000 pages of documents they claim proves the existence of UFOs.

One of the placards read: "Stop the Cosmic Watergate!"

"Depending on what poll you use, maybe 50 or 60 percent of the American public has some belief in UFOs, but they don't talk about it because of the stigma," said Mr. Regimonte, a 44-year-old construction manager who has pursued the subject as a hobby for about four years. "And there's a lot more going on than even those people want to let into their minds."

Yesterday's protest was the second in as many years for "Operation Right to Know," a Washington



Protesters used the 46th anniversary of an alleged alien landing in New Mexico to picket the White House.

group devoted to ending government secrecy about extra terrestrials, including the alleged U.S. Army retrieval in 1947 of a crashed flying saucer and dead aliens in Roswell, N.M.

Larry W. Bryant, a "Right to Know" supporter, has filed suit here demanding that the Army and Walter Reed Medical Center release autopsies of aliens believed to have been recovered from the desert outside of Roswell on July 5, 1947.

"If the government would at least acknowledge the truth of Roswell, it would move Ufology out of the nut case category and into the legitimate scientific realm," said Mr. Regimonte, who spent the weekend at a UFO seminar in Richmond, Va., that attracted scientists and academics as well as those who say they have been abducted by aliens and taken aboard space ships for observation.

Last year's White House rally

drew less than a dozen people, but such small beginnings suit leaders of "Operation Right to Know," who likened their mission to the Civil Rights marches by black Americans in the 1950s and 1960s.

"The Civil Rights movement started when one lady refused to give up her seat on a bus," said Ed Komarek, a Thomasville, Ga., real estate investor who co-founded "Operation Right to Know." "Just like back then, there's a lot of dis-

satisfaction. We want full disclosure."

Said Hal McKenzie, an organizer from Maryland: "This demonstration is more important than any demonstration ever held in Washington, D.C. This one affects everyone."

A big problem in being taken seriously, Mr. Komarek said, is supermarket tabloids with screaming headlines like, "Aliens Abduct Elvis from the Grave!"

And he chastised the mainstream media for being more interested in interviewing kooks who show up at UFO rallies in space costumes with silver antennae on their heads than filing Freedom of Information Act requests to find out why the government won't talk about Roswell and other incidents.

A flier circulated to the protesters advised pickets on how to deal with reporters, who nearly outnumbered the marchers.

"There may indeed be aliens walking through the walls of your bedroom," the hand-out said. "But no newspaper could print that without ridiculing you."

Mindy Gerber, a 35-year-old registered nurse from East Windsor, N.J., braves the ridicule.

"I'm an abductee. It's been going on throughout my life and will continue to go on," said Ms. Gerber, who said she has no conscious recall of the abductions but vaguely remembers the experiences through hypnosis.

"The aliens study certain people the way we might study animals in the wild. It's all kind of gray to me. I'm not very clear what I've learned except that there's a lot of stuff going on that we just don't know about."

UFO Abductor Types

While inner government pretends that UFOs and their occupants don't even exist, data being assembled by civilian researchers reveals a stark truth that refutes this huge falsehood. We have learned that not only is such a phantom-like force present, but also that it is engaged in the ominous secret abduction of thousands of humans. In known abduction cases, although there is much entity variety, we have identified several types of entities. They are the Grays, the Nordics, and the less often seen Insectoids, Reptilians, ape-like entities, and others.

The Grays are a part of the large short statured being class, and are involved, at least in the USA, in a majority of all abductions. Most are frail, gray skinned, big headed and have large wrap around black eyes. Their demeanor is usually aloof and business-like as they work on their human subjects in the craft. There are some cases reporting a ruthless lack of compassion.

I have several cases where the Insectoid type was present. In one the person drew a creature that is very much like a Praying Mantis. In another we have a grasshopper-like thing with a large head, wrap around slanted eyes, and a long thin mouth slit. Its oval tan torso had long thin appendages. It communicated mentally and exuded kindness and love. I should explain that the probable motive for this is to skillfully control the alarmed human.

It is the human-like, tall, long blond haired Nordics that I find fascinating. English researcher Jenny Randles has had a majority of these in her abduction cases. In my Illinois case the abductee had several public encounters with this type whose most impressive feature to her was their bottomless, striking blue eyes. She describes them as smiling and kind. In my Georgia case the abductee, who knew about underground-under river bases yet due to fear would not talk about them, described the Nordics as having eyes made like ours but real blue. Both sexes were tan skinned and wore skin tight suits. They were concerned about Earth and didn't like what some other beings were doing to people. On the craft they communicated mind to mind or vocally. At home she could hear them without seeing them.

CLANCY & Co.



MICHAEL CLANCY AND DOLORES TROPIANO

The Arizona Republic

UFO buffs tense after encounter with media kind

KAR's Preston Westmoreland and his wife, Nancy, have a propensity for getting in trouble. Several years back, the couple's New Mexico vacation turned into a shootout with drunks who tried to steal their plane. Well, last month, an innocent outing to an Arizona ghost town turned into an adventure from outer space. "It was like walking out in the middle of *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*," said Westmoreland, who arrived at Robson's Arizona Mining World (just west of Wickenburg and 10 miles north of Aguila) and found hundreds of people from across the country, including top officials from NASA and members of a "former presidential administration," gathered for a UFO sighting. When they found out a talk-show host was in their midst, they were extremely concerned. "They would lose their job if the government found out who they were," said Westmoreland, who was asked to leave. Apparently, some would rather welcome an alien than a member of the media.

In my Louisiana case the attractive fair-skinned Nordics wore white loose robes and also were kind and loving. None of these persons that I have listed as encountering the Nordics know about each other due to distance between them. Yet each is describing a Nordic type in appearance and actions.

Yes, I know you agree that all this is very intriguing about the "nice" Nordics. Can there be an actual benevolent being out there? Before we embrace this wonderful idea much more data is needed. I do have another case where the abductee, who resided in northwest Fayette County, says she had her life ruined after her abduction by the blue-eyed ones. In fact they even predicted some of her ruin. I also must men-

tion that it is a disturbing fact that our Nordics are seen in the company of the other types who engage in the lawless activity of abduction. Apparently the various types are all part of a huge conglomerate driven by unseen masterminds whose final purpose will become known in the future. Are they here to help us and save us or are they here to use us and make us conform to their image?

If you have met the hoped-for "good kind" would you please write me? As you can see I'm skeptical but hope and pray I'm wrong.

DON WORLEY
1051 Beech St.
Connersville Indiana

GRAPHIC, Anderson, MO - April 28, 1993



Local UFO sightings reported

Third of a 3-part series on the Ozark UFO conference

by Jo Pearcy

"They're here," says H.D., who has made a hobby of skywatching. "About two years ago this county was inundated with UFOs."

According to McDonald County Sheriff Don Schlessman, it was a little over two years ago when the Sheriff's office was flooded with calls from the southeast part of the county. The callers reported that while traveling highway 90 east of the former Sims Store after dark, some kind of "thing" had hovered over their cars, following them and spotting them with a bright light. It made no noise as one would expect from a helicopter. Numerous calls reported this same thing happened to them. Needless to say, many were frightened almost to the panic stage.

Don was convinced that it was one of the Army's big helicopters that could have had a "silent mode" which kept the big blades from making their identifying sound. He figured it had to come from the base near Fort Smith, Ark. Don called the General there and explained the situation. The General vehemently denied that any of their copters or other craft had been flying anywhere in the vicinity of the reported "UFOs." Soon after that the sightings stopped.

The most memorable call Sheriff Schlessman recalls was one from a landowner on MM Highway off Highway 90 near Southwest City. The call came into the Sheriff's office between 8 and 9 p.m. on a dark, foggy, misty night. When Don arrived at the scene, the farmer reported having seen lights outover his field. He drove his pickup out into the field to investigate. The next thing he knew, he had somehow been transported, pickup and all, across a deep, rocky gully to the field on the other side. He had no recollection of how he got there.

After a thorough investigation, Don could find no answers. "The man had nothing to gain by making up a story," he said. He wasn't drunk. He was obviously upset by the incident. He would have had to drive back up to his house and all the way around to get to the side of the gully where he ended up. There was no way he could have crossed the deep ravine, even in a four-wheel-drive, which he didn't have.

Neither the man nor his truck had suffered any physical effects. A careful investigation turned up no evidence of any kind. The incident is still an unexplained mystery.

H.D. tells how he was skywatching while visiting with his neighbors one night about 9:30. He spotted an object and said to the neighbors,

"What's that thing over the dirt road? It's something hovering over my property." They all went out on the road (CC Highway, near Long View) and directly across the field, by the woods, a saucer-shaped thing hovered just over the tree-tops. It was a bright silver near the top, yellow down to a bright orange glow at the bottom. According to H.D., it just hovered there for about 30 minutes, then disappeared. One of his neighbors verified the story. "There really was something there. I don't know what it was, or where it came from, but it really was there. I saw it."

Says H.D., "I've seen it many times and shown it to a lot of people. I always look to the north. It is often there, just hovering over the trees. Then it takes off fast."

S.J. from Anderson writes, "One late fall night in 1987, I came home from being in town with friends around 2:30 a.m. As I walked up the hill in front of my parents home, I looked up to see the unbelievable! At tree-top level I saw a dark round object with red lights on it. This thing was moving south to north at slow walking speed. Oddly, I could hear absolutely no sound from it whatsoever.

"As I stood in front of the porch watching....I thought of a flashlight on the dining table....of waking my brother....but what if it was gone (when I returned)?

"By this time it was about 15 feet directly above my neighbor's house. I then walked from the porch to his front yard to stand directly under it. Mind you, this was a scant 30 feet away. I still remember the tingling sensation flowing repeatedly throughout my body. I also remember thinking that I could easily hit it with a rock. It was that close.

"So, I just stood there in my neighbor's yard and watched as it moved from north to south until it faded from sight. This dark sphere was approxi-

mately 15' in diameter. It appeared to have 6 red lights on it, one at the top, one at the bottom and four others around the center. The lights were a dim color....."

S.J. got a lot of "beam-me-up-Scotty" responses when he told others of his experience, but he ends by saying, "We see everyday objects and their respective names come readily to mind. However, what was *that* thing?"

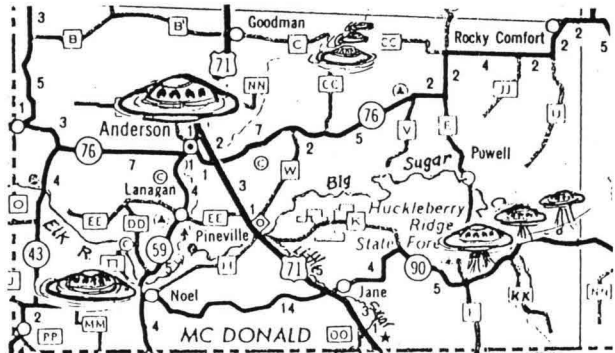
Another McDonald Countian wrote about her experience in Louisiana.

"One Halloween night, about twenty years ago when I was a teenager, my best friend and I were taking our neighbor's kids trick-or-treating. We were in a fairly rural area, so there was often a lot of distance between houses. We were getting tired of walking, so we sat down in a field that was between two houses.

"We gazed up at the beautiful fall night sky with its bright autumn moon. Then we saw a spherical object with revolving lights hovering high in the sky (I'd say from a half to one mile above us). It appeared to be similar to our idea of a spaceship....a UFO...for it did not have any of the characteristics of a plane, blimp or helicopter. And it was so quiet. Silent. It briefly hovered over us, then *whoosh!* it shot away toward the east at an incredible speed. It was truly incredible.

"We screamed, jumped up and ran home as fast as we could. Later that evening, we heard on the radio that lots of people had been calling in to describe a UFO they had seen....the same one we saw!"

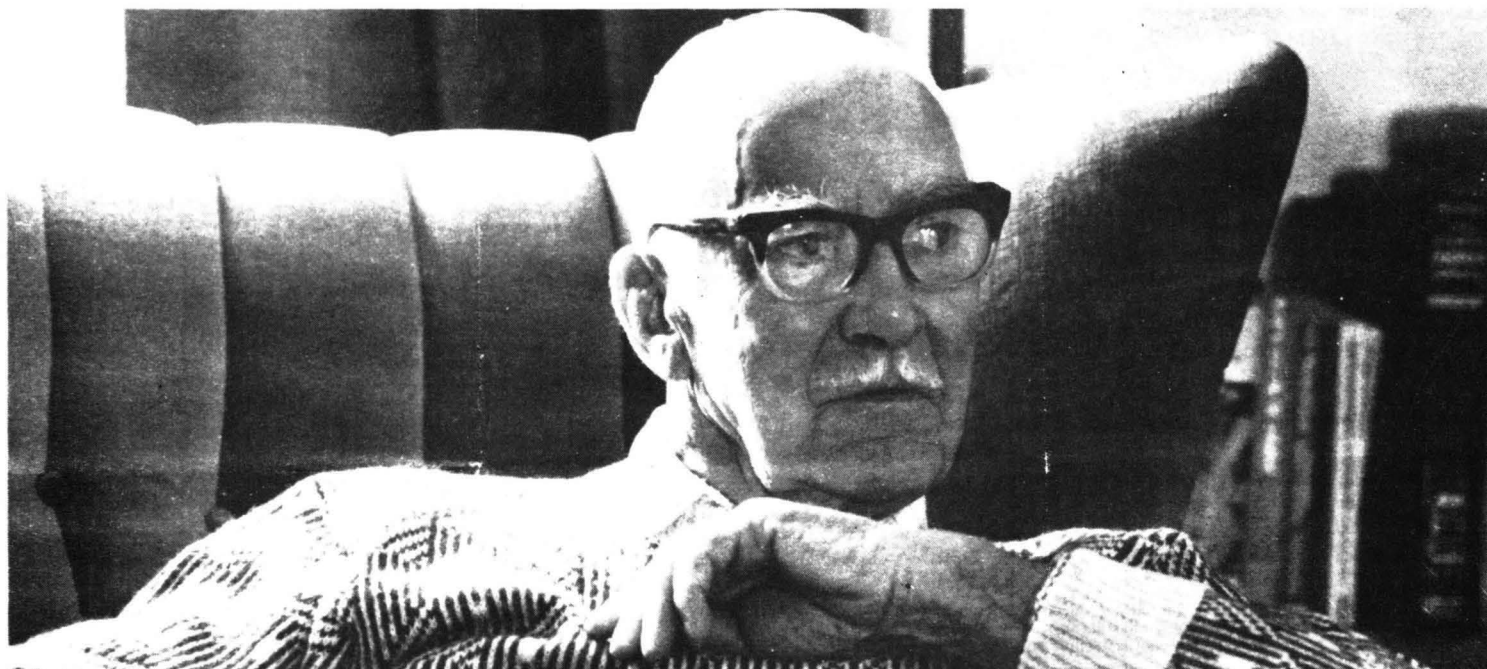
There have been so many sightings by reliable sources, including airline and Air Force pilots who report flying beside them, that even the U.S. government is beginning to acknowledge that UFOs do exist. Where they come from and what they are here for is a matter of controversy that each of us will have to determine for himself.





ADVERTISER, Midlothian, England - May 6, 1993 CR: T. Good

Calling Occupants Of Interplanetary Craft



UNIDENTIFIED Flying Objects are the fascination of a pensioner who claims the public is being kept ignorant of incidents of unearthly happenings.

The philosophical, ethical and theological repercussions of alien beings and objects visiting earth, and the inexplicable phenomena he claims to have witnessed, are, he believes, why the lid is being kept on the findings of a lifetime's research.

Mr John Spark (69) of Crichton Road, Crichton, is convinced government's believe any confirmation of alien sightings would lead to public disorder and the world order being plunged into chaos.

A former investigator for the *Flying Saucer Review* magazine — a publication which is still available — during the 1950s, he travelled the length and breadth of Scotland compiling dossiers on incidences of strange phenomena. He also founded the first Scottish research club on UFOs in Haddington.

He knows he is viewed by some as an eccentric crackpot, but is unrepentant. By others he is, more seriously, viewed as a danger, public nuisance or even a public enemy.

Society's ambivalent view of the unworldly has made his task an uphill one. He said: "I send reports to London and Whitehall just classifies the information." He claims those who are aware of the happenings prefer to suppress the information.

He has met with the celebrated George Adamski — the first author of a book about flying saucers who claimed to have met a Christ-like man in the desert in 1952 and the first person claimed to have photographed a Venusian scout ship or flying saucers. Adamski met Mr Spark on his visit to Britain in 1958 at Carstairs railway junction.

OAP John Spark, Above, Recalls The Day He Met Two 'Aliens' At A Reservoir In East Lothian

The purpose of his visit to Britain was to confer with the two boys who photographed a similar object, 35' in diameter, at Conniston in the Lake District.

Mr Spark's work has been vindicated to some extent, he feels, by the American Freedom of Speech Act which, he says brought an admission from the Americans that they have been investigating supernatural phenomena which they previously denied existed.

For his own part, Mr Spark claims to have been tailed and put under surveillance in his quest to unearth the unearthly. "I have had security following me all over the country while I carried out my investigation work for the *Flying Saucer Review*."

Those who are privy to the information he has compiled include, Mr Spark claims, the Duke of Edinburgh.

The pensioner's interest in the galaxy and what may exist beyond began at an early age and was not inherited.

"At the age of about five or six I had a small telescope and was always looking at the stars."

"I had a squadron leader brother in the Royal Air Force and he and his bomber pilot used to talk about the objects they had seen flying across the wing tips when flying their Lancaster Bomber aircraft." He believes these disc like objects were most likely space ship probes.

Sightings of alien objects and beings are, claims Mr Spark, more common than the public is led to believe and, more often than not, immediately shrouded in secrecy by government agencies such as the Ministry of Defence.

Sightings, he says, are not the privilege of the chosen few. "People walk along the road, eyes downcast, thinking about shopping lists and rarely look up into the sky. I have seen 29 objects, with witnesses — these are the only ones that count."

It was while working as a draper in Haddington — Mr Spark lived next to the manse at West Road where his neighbour was the Rev Joe Ritchie — that he claims he made his first corroborated sighting of a UFO one Thursday in 1957.

He recalls the minister was starting up his car to attend a wedding when he called him. "I thought, 'they will believe a minister before they believe me'."

The pair watched a metallic object hovering in the sky above Mr Spark's house for some time. Mr Ritchie, he said, appeared later that day on the six o'clock news to verify the sighting.

"He believed in it and subsequently preached a sermon in church to the effect that the universe was a big place."

The appearance of the object also prompted calls

from folk in Fife, who claimed to have seen the object which had visited Haddington.

Another claim of a local UFO sighting came from 14 tattler howlers from Musselburgh who were being transported in the back of a lorry.

"They had been working at Gladsmuir. It was a wet afternoon. From the back of the lorry going up New Craighall, on the road where Crudens used to be the women said they saw a large oval object shaped like a dining room table in the sky. Some, spending on their religion, likened it to the halo worn by the Virgin Mary or Jesus Christ."

Both incidents were, Mrs Spark said, explained away by the authorities. The latter was deemed to be a weather balloon which had been released at Leuchars by the air ministry.

Another notable supernatural sighting was witnessed by two ambulancemen whose vehicle mounted the pavement at Joppa after a balloon like object had crossed their path.

In West Lothian a forestry worker was badly burned following an incident in the woods at Dechmont Hall in 1979 and, to mark the spot, the first ever plaque to the witnessing of a UFO was erected.

The most spectacular or important happening Mr

Spark claims to have witnessed was an encounter with what he believes were two aliens at Kidlaw Reservoir in the Lammermuir Hills in the late 1950s.

"My eldest daughter and I, looking south from our home in West Road, saw light coming from the direction of the Lammermuir Hills."

"I phoned the farmer at Kidlaw Farm and asked him to check the hills in case there was a car there with its head lights on. The farmer went up the hill in a jeep but could not find any light but we could still see the light from Haddington."

"We continued watching the light from a telescope and after hours of watching it disappeared."

He and his daughter were among a small group of people who visited the Kidlaw reservoir two days later with radiation detecting equipment.

On arrival Mr Spark saw a fisherman. He recalls he never thought a great deal about the encounter at the time. However, the man had spoken to him and said: "I have never been here in my life before."

Quite a way across the flat reservoir, Mr Spark met up with the second man. "He had high cheek bones and a copper coloured complexion. He looked straight into me and never said a word."

The encounter made him uneasy and he quickly joined the rest of the company and immediately realised the strange circumstances of both

encounters.

The first man who had been fishing had nothing with him but a fishing line which, he was aware of in hindsight, had never been cast.

Mr Spark said: "I looked back and both men had completely vanished with no visible sign of transport." A check later of taxi, bus company and car hire firms showed no trips had been made to the area that day.

Mr Spark is convinced he experienced an alien encounter for, on checking his radiation equipment, he found radioactivity had been recorded. "I never found out any more about it and we all agreed not to report it to the police."

Other reported happenings include the appearance of two depressions in the ground at Cockburnspath which a local shepherd alerted the authorities to in the 1950s and, more recently, a space ship suspended above Corstorphine police station in the 1970s.

Aware his belief in the supernatural does unsettle some people — many would brand him as a heretic or blasphemer — Mr Spark said: "There are 200,000 million stars in our galaxy. There are nine planets orbiting our sun. I am sure there are planets like ours orbiting other suns."

He points out the Maoris in New Zealand say there should be 12 planets. "This civilisation has always known, before the days of telescopes, there were six bands around Jupiter. Somebody from a far more intelligent race or civilisation surely visited them," he said.

He also points out that Christ, following the resurrection after the stone was rolled back, said to followers "touch me not" and poses the possibility of Jesus himself having returned radioactive from another more advanced world.

Staff Photo: N/5188.

Report by Catriona Watt
Picture by David Howard

Is this a UFO?



TOP LEFT Skip O'Neill, left, and Ryan Williams ... light followed them

by JASON BROWN

Two young men are convinced their lives have been altered by an extraterrestrial experience.

Ryan Williams and Skip O'Neill have captured on video what they claim are two UFOs hovering over Frenchs Forest.

The excited men contacted *The Manly Daily* after reading reports of unexplained patterned orange lights off Harbord.

The Daily has taken graphic photos from the 11-minute video, which shows a bright light changing shape and color before blooming into a large multi-colored striped sphere. The video also shows a smaller bright orange light hovering nearby.

Manly UFO investigator Garry Wiseman, who viewed the video yesterday, said he had never seen an object expand and contract so dramatically.

He said the large object looked similar to other footage of alleged UFO sightings, particularly a 1978 New Zealand sighting filmed by a news crew.

"It's not necessarily something from outer space," he said. "But it looks like something with extreme energy. The reaction from the boys is very similar to those people I have spoken to in the past."

Ryan, 19, of Frenchs Forest, and 21-year-old Skip, from Melbourne,

'Spiritual journey' captured on video

captured the bizarre experience on video and still camera during the early hours of last Thursday.

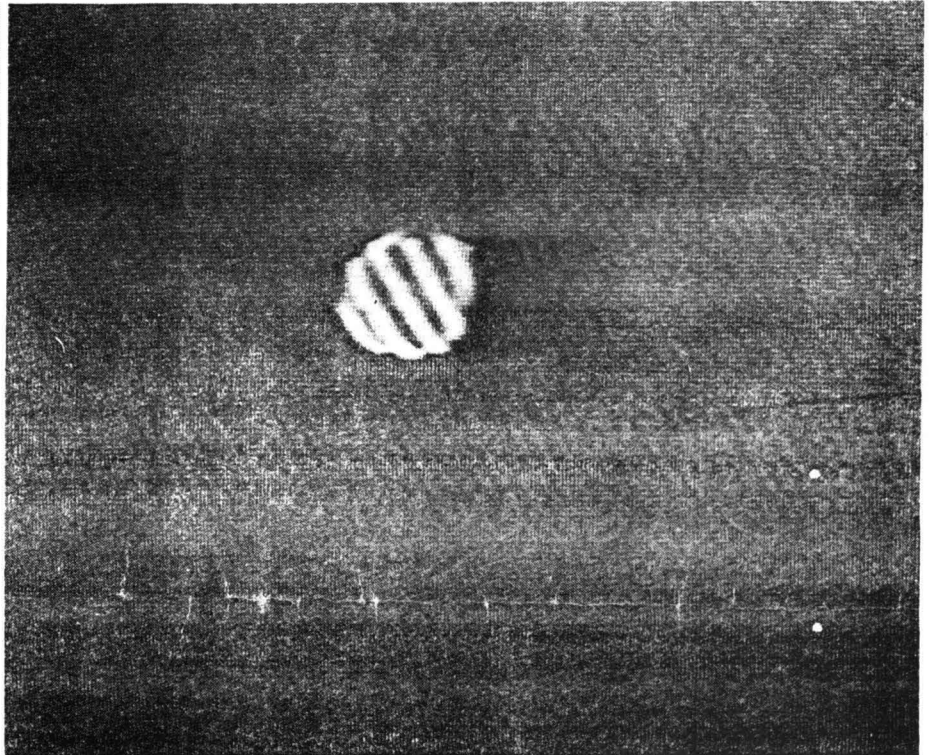
The pair were returning home from a Mona Vale nightclub at about 3.30am when they first spotted a strange bright light hovering off the Long Reef headland.

After spending about 20 minutes taking still photos of the ebbing light, they raced to Ryan's Frenchs Forest home with intentions of returning to Long Reef with a video camera to film the spectacle.

But they claim the light followed them and "brought a friend with it".

Ryan, a university student, captured video footage of the object from outside his home.

"I have no doubt about its presence, I felt invigorated," Skip said.



The object the pair captured on video - this picture was taken off a TV screen from a still video shot

"The whole time not only were we acknowledging it, but it seemed to be acknowledging us.

"A lot of people are going to be extremely sceptical, but it was like experiencing a miracle. I felt like I had been on some fantastic journey."

Ryan said he experienced a loss of time and felt like he was being watched.

"There was a full attraction to it," he said.

"It kept changing color from fluorescent to reddish, even the aura it was putting off was changing. I definitely had the feeling that there was some sort of intelligence behind it."

Ryan said he had spotted three UFOs before, but the sightings had never been coupled with the same emotional feelings.

He takes an avid interest in the unexplained and collects videos

and magazines concerning UFOs.

But Skip has never taken an active interest in UFOs and until last Thursday did not believe they existed.

"I've changed my views since then. I don't think I'll ever be the same again because it was like a spiritual experience," he said.

Australian Skeptics national secretary Harry Edwards, of Newport, said while he had not viewed the video, he believed the light could simply be a large planet such as Venus.

"It sounds like it would be rather difficult to manufacture the video," he said.

"But there are all sorts of weird and wonderful things in the atmosphere."

Sydney Observatory education officer Rod Somerville said the large bright object could have been Venus which rose in the east at 3.15am.

He said the image could change or appear to shake as a result of atmospheric conditions.

The video camera may have also created some distortion, he said.

A police spokesman said no helicopters were operating along the northern beaches at that time.

Despite the disclaimers, Ryan and Skip remain convinced of their galactic experience.

"You wouldn't know what it was like unless you were there," said Skip.

"We can't believe we were the only ones who saw it. It was so intensely there."

"We have tried to speculate about the possibilities and we have been unable to come up with anything."

Meanwhile 10 people called *The Manly Daily* yesterday and reported seeing hovering orange lights between Manly and Avalon on Monday night.

SOUTH LONDON PRESS, London, England - June 18, 1993 CR: T. Good

Children spot flying object whizzing by

WAS it a bird, was it a plane or could it have been a UFO?

Excited kids at a Brockley school are convinced it was an unidentified flying object that whizzed by during their lunch hour on Tuesday.

Two red glowing triangular objects were spotted by seven pupils of John Stainer Primary School.

The 10 and 11-year-olds at the St. Asaph Road school claim that the two triangles gave chase to a plane, one above and one below, before joining together in front and then vanishing.

They claim that the plane too, then disappeared and a white star suddenly appeared, which moved in a north westerly direction until they lost sight of it.

Kevin Smith (11) said, "None of us have ever seen anything like it before. At first we thought it was a plane but because of the triangles we thought it had to be something else. We think it was UFOs."

Form tutor Jane Giles said they dashed into tell her what they had seen and said, "They definitely saw something and they are not ones to make it up."

"It was a bit strange the way they dashed in to tell me what had happened and that they should start drawing what they saw."

Sightings

The British Unidentified Flying Object Research Association said there was a one in 20 chance that what the youngsters saw was a UFO - but 95 per cent of sightings can be explained simply.

Metaphysical organisation the Aetherius Society, which believes that earth is occasionally visited by extra-terrestrial spacecraft, said, "It's an unusual sighting, although the triangular shapes are not unique. Normally one sees a scout craft commonly known as a flying saucer."

"There are often very simple explanations but the fact remains that some of the sightings cannot be so simply explained."

A spokesman for the London Weather Centre said Tuesday's conditions were good for UFO spotting, "clear and sunny."

But killjoys at the Ministry of Defence brought the youngsters back down to earth.

A spokesman said, "We don't believe in UFOs. It was probably a plane like Concorde."

He added that all aircraft over London is radar monitored and anything unauthorised challenged by radio immediately.

He said, "There were no unauthorised aircraft in the skies that day."

● UFO SPOTTING: Pictured, to right, are Kevin Smith, Johnathan MacLeod, Jamie Beck with, Daniel Halliday, Ricky Smith, Marcus Dean and Charlene Jones.

RUA ... UFO?



UFO could have been a secret US spy plane

By Leo Enright

WAS it a flying saucer? Was it a plane? Or was it an SR-71 Blackbird transatlantic flying body developed by the United States as the latest successor to the legendary U-2 spy plane?

Much of the evidence suggests that the unidentified flying object sighted over Ireland this week was an unauthorised overflight of Irish airspace by the US National Reconnaissance Organisation's most secret asset: the so-called Aurora spaceplane. There may even have been two of them, and the evidence that they passed over Spacill Hill in Co Clare last week is quite convincing.

Robbie McMahon, a well-known traditional singer in east Clare, was returning home to Spacill Hill early last Wednesday when he spotted two bright lights in the sky heading south. As he says himself, he saw them "out the long window of the car" (the windscreen), and there were "little wee ones running behind them".

A respected amateur astronomer saw the same lights in Sligo moments earlier and said the contrails were broken by illuminated clumps trailing behind; an Air Corps flight crew saw the lights cross their path as they flew north-west from Baldonnel to Finner Camp in Donegal. Another reliable report puts the lights over Courtmacsherry in Co Cork some five minutes later.

Many aspects of the sightings tally with what is known of the Aurora craft. Since the lights appear to have crossed the country in less than five minutes, one can estimate the speed of the object(s) at up to five times the speed of sound — a good fit with previous estimates for Aurora; the brightness of the lights at high altitude can be explained by the enormous heat of friction causing the craft to glow white hot.

However, the presence of two lights is a significant puzzle and leads to speculation that two crafts were involved. Some observers have said that one light was brighter than the other. It is not impossible that the crew of Aurora were flying in formation, with a smaller robot vehicle, perhaps code-named "Senior".

The absence of noise is not remarkable, since sonic booms do not propagate in the high upper atmosphere. That air traffic control spotted nothing on radar may indicate that the craft had "stealth" characteristics, but in any event, ATC radar nowadays depends mostly on planes which broadcast a signal to advertise their presence.

The Pentagon has strenuously denied Aurora's existence, and the project is almost certainly not called Aurora by its creators. But many analysts believe that the space plane is now in operational service, flying routinely from Edwards Air Force Base in California, over the North Pole, to the top security RAF base at Waddington in Strathclyde and returning to Edwards over the Pole in time for breakfast.

The vehicle is almost the size of Concorde and is presumed to be the replacement for the SR-71 Blackbird reconnaissance plane which was retired in 1990 without any satisfactory explanation.

The former astronaut and Ohio senator John Glenn told the *Washington Post* at the time that he believed the decision to mothball the SR-71 only made sense if there was a follow-on project. Aurora can reach most places on Earth within 90 minutes.

The first indications that the US air force was developing a new aircraft came in the late 1980s, when witnesses described seeing a strange plane with a broken contrail — "like doughnuts coming out the back". This distinctive contrail, also reported in Ireland this week, is the signature of an advanced "pulse" engine.

Then last year, the crew of a scheduled airline jumbo jet filed a "near collision" report after they sighted a large, pencil-shaped plane heading towards them at phenomenal speed while they were on a flight from New York to Los Angeles.

Reports during the week suggested that the Irish sightings might be explained by the re-entry of an old satellite or by space debris. Up to 138 satellites and spent rocket stages passed within sight of Ireland between midnight and 4 a.m. Wednesday, but not one of them came close to re-entry. The US space command headquarters at Cheyenne Mountain in Colorado has confirmed that no satellite of any nationality entered the atmosphere anywhere in the world during the relevant period.

A meteorite fall is a possible explanation, but witnesses consistently described a horizontal flight path which appears to have held steady for at least five minutes (a report from Glastonbury in southern England suggests the course held true for 20 minutes, but this is uncorroborated). Meteorites generally fall to Earth a lot sooner.

Despite its categorical denials, it is hard to escape the conclusion that the Pentagon now has a spy-plane with "global reach" which is ideally suited to monitoring rapidly developing situations in remote regions of the world: a new plane for a new world order.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD & KINGS LANGLEY EXPRESS, England - May 21, 1993 CR: T. Good

ET, phone Heme!...

ALIENS from outer space could be keeping watch on Hemel Hempstead and getting ready to land, say local UFO enthusiasts.

The aliens made a tentative appearance last Sunday when strange lights appeared in the road, they say.

The watchers will be concentrating their attentions on archaeological sites, such as the recently discovered Bronze Age site in Gadebridge which, they believe, attract the spacecrafts.

They are also planning to watch for crop circles which could appear in fields in and around Dacorum in the coming weeks.

Simon Shavelar of Woodhall Farm, a member of the Herts branch of Associated Research Into New Physics said: "The sighting of the lights on the road could be leading to a close encounter. It happened when a couple, who are complete sceptics, saw the lights as they drove along a back road from Berkhamsted to Tring."

"The lights shone up from the road in front of them. When they got to their destination they found they had lost 20 minutes out of their journey."

Group colleague John Page of Claymore, Hemel Hempstead added: "I think there is a great likelihood that something may happen. We are not the only ones in the universe and anybody who thinks we are must be very narrow-minded."

They have invited a NASA scientist and a professional dowser to help them in their observations.

INDEPENDENT, London, England - June 18, 1993 CR: T. Good

For someone who was abducted by aliens, Travis Walton doesn't have much to say. *Jim Shelley reports*

The man who fell back to Earth

I HAD just one worry — that the chairman would call upon me to prove I was One Of Them.

This was an important meeting for the British UFO Research Association (Bufora). Would they ask me to justify my presence by relating a personal UFO sighting or, even worse, an alien abduction? Would I have to produce evidence of a rectal probe, an examination said to be a favoured by aliens?

The members, after all, had packed into a lecture room at the London Business School, near Regent's Park, to hear one of the movement's most important apostles, Travis Walton, the Arizona woodsman whose alleged abduction by aliens in 1975 is one of the organisation's most convincing cases, not least because six men supposedly witnessed it.

Mr Walton and Mike Rogers, one of the witnesses, were in Britain to explain their version of events and promote the Paramount Pictures film of their story,

At the venue, however, Travis Walton's seat was empty. This was ominous. I wondered if he had been abducted again

Fire In The Sky, which opens nationwide today.

At the venue, however, Mr Walton's seat was empty. This was ominous. I wondered if he had been abducted again. Aside from a few oddballs with unusual hairstyles and eccentric outfits, the members appeared a rather ordinary bunch — students, accountants, physics teachers. Some were trying to look weird (dark glasses, intense expressions, black clothes), while others were trying to look normal (and failing).

A couple of Bufora members, train-spotter types with anoraks, glasses and sandwich boxes, were talking behind me. "...so anyway, I've only just got back..."

I looked for signs of abduction.

"It was lovely — Skegness, two weeks."

One large man had brought his suitcase, as if he were ready for his disappearance. Only one man's disturbed looks suggested he had really been ab-

ducted, and recently, too. I sat next to him.

A man dressed as a member of the Eighties pop group the Buggles stepped up to the microphone and asked us to give "a big Bufora welcome" to Travis Walton and Mike Rogers.

You knew immediately which was Mr Walton. It was his eyes. To no applause at all, the two men were led into the room and welcomed with the kind of hushed, sombre looks usually afforded prisoners being taken to the gallows. Members of the audience took photographs, as if Mr Walton were a freak on display — he had become the alien now.

He made a strange sight: someone on the public relations trail who received no obvious enjoyment from the attention. With his hard, weathered face and neat moustache, he looked subdued.

He and Mr Rogers ran through their version of events: the enormous glowing object, the bolt of energy hitting him, the spaceship zapping away, the panic.

After "five days, six hours and some minutes", he regained consciousness and found himself naked, terrified and "in terrible pain" at a highway service station. Memories included the atmosphere ("very hot, dry, stale") and the aliens ("hairless beings, large heads, chalky white grey skin, enormous eyes. Really terrifying").

To the dismay of the membership, Mr Walton confirmed that his descriptions of the aliens and their craft had been altered by Paramount Pictures to make its film more original and frightening.

"We're all disappointed to hear you say that," one senior member said, as if he had been betrayed.

Other questioners seemed to imply that "hey, buddy, I've been there, too"; but Mr Walton had no experiences of time-lapses to relate, no idea how he got back to Earth, and none of the memories of unusual physical examinations, implants, incisions or sperm-testing common among people who claim to have been abducted.

What the audience wanted, however, was something they could use, some new proof to help the cause. "So you have no idea what happened the rest of the time?" one member asked querulously. Mr Walton said he did not — he was too busy

screaming at the time, before passing out altogether.

"And you didn't ask them about their planet?"

"No."

"Or what they wanted?"

"No."

"Well," asked one boffin brightly, "did you get any unusual allergies after you'd returned? Or find magnetic fields affected you in some way? No. Oh, I see. Fine."

As far as the Bufora members were concerned, Mr Walton's trip was beginning to look like a wasted opportunity, an opportunity he had wasted. They, after all, had probably spent hours working out crucial questions that they would ask the aliens when they were abducted.

One member, who said he knew a man aged 70 who had been abducted and returned unharmed because he was aged and infirm, asked Mr Walton: "Why you?"

He ran through his version of events: the glowing object, the bolt of energy, the spaceship zapping away, the panic

He had no answer to this either.

The odd thing was that the more Mr Walton said "no" or that he "didn't know", the more impressive he seemed. There were no psychobabble theories to sell us about aliens coming to Earth to stop nuclear war or cure cancer. In fact, like the aliens, Travis Walton didn't have any message.

He said that the six men who witnessed his abduction had spent years as pariahs, accused first of being murderers, then of being frauds, hoaxers or nutters. None had changed their story, and all recently passed lie-detector tests.

He said he had no doubts about what happened to him, but was coping now "by trying to leave it behind me, shut it off".

As a final sleight, perhaps, he said he did not feel privileged. "Not at all. A lot of people might. The event could have happened to anybody."

The way he said it, you could only feel glad that it didn't happen to you.

NEWS & ADVERTISER, Todmorden, England - May 21, 1993 CR: T. Good

UFO EPICENTRE!

By Amanda Harry

TODMORDEN'S reputation as the "epicentre" of UFO activity in Britain is confirmed this week.

Some of the strange events that have occurred in this area in recent years are the subject of a pilot television programme to be screened in the London area tonight.

The programme, "Strange...But True?", presented by Michael Aspel, has investigated several UFO sightings in Todmorden including the Alan Godfrey case and using interviews and dramatic reconstructions aims to give the public the chance to make up their own minds.

Mr David Alpin, a former Calderdale journalist, is editor of the programme and said that after studying statistics on UFO activity across the country, he believed Todmorden and the surrounding area within a ten mile radius was the epicentre.

He said that more than ten per cent of all abductions and sightings have been recorded here which is remarkable for one small town.

London Weekend Television have produced the programme which also covers the subject of reincarnation and uses information from a library of the unexplained in the University of London made up of books collected by psychic investigator Harry Price.

Mr Alpin said that unfortunately, because this programme is a pilot to test viewer reaction, it will only be shown in London this week. But the last time the company tried this with a programme, which also had a Calderdale link, it was commissioned by ITV so there is a chance local people will get to see it eventually.

The programme was filmed three weeks ago in Todmorden at locations where UFOs have been sighted and includes mainly interviews plus some reconstructions. Actors play the roles of local people involved and an interview is included with Alan Godfrey and other local people as well as one with five other police officers from two forces that witnessed a UFO the night of Alan's "close encounter".

As a former local policeman, Alan was sent to investigate a body mysteriously dumped on top of a coal heap in the railway station yard and a substance was found on the back of the man's neck that forensic scientists could not identify. West Yorkshire Coroner Mr James Turnbull says in the programme that it is one of the most puzzling cases he has seen in 25 years and if UFOs were connected he would "only raise half an eyebrow".

Five months afterwards PC Godfrey, out in his patrol car, said he came face to face with a UFO the size of a double decker bus. As he tried to call for help his car and personal radio failed to work and the next thing he knew it was half an hour later and he was 100 yards further down the road.

The programme also includes video tape of Alan under hypnotic regression which he underwent to try and remember the lost half hour.

According to Mr Alpin the aim of the programme was to be quite different in its approach to the whole area of the paranormal.

"We avoided the predictable subjects of ghost sightings, etc, and went for the slightly offbeat subjects that remain largely unexplained and stories that can't easily be dismissed. In each case there is a lot of scientific evidence to back the stories up and the programme leaves people to make up their own minds," he said.

"It is the first time anyone has looked at all the different cases recorded in Todmorden together. Several occurred before Alan Godfrey's experience but there is no evidence to suggest there are copycat cases occurring."

He added that during the three days of filming the programme makers talked to many local people who said they had seen something unusual in addition to the recorded cases which had been researched.

"One of the theories to explain what is happening is that the rock around Todmorden is millstone grit which has a high quartz content. Because there are so many reservoirs in the area the great volume of water is pushing down onto the rock exerting tremendous pressure and, as in quartz watches where an electrical spark is produced, a giant version of that is occurring producing the lights in the sky. This is also said to be able to affect the electrical impulses of the brain."

The programme also includes other theories including the simple fact that the town is on the flightpath from Heathrow to America and for Manchester airport but Mr Alpin added that Todmorden people involved in the sightings are adamant that they know what a plane looks like and the lights they have seen are nothing to with planes!

Peter Drew of the Astronomy Centre, Bacup Road, is also interviewed by the programme and though he says some lights that have been seen did have normal explanations admits that he has witnessed a "flying saucer" type object in the skies above Todmorden which could not be explained away at the time.

He adds that he checked the telescope he was using at the time for any faults but none could be found.

Mr Alpin said: "It is hard to explain what is going on, but Todmorden is definitely the centre of all this activity."

Flying 'vacuum cleaner' sighted

An object said to resemble a "Goblin-shaped vacuum cleaner, with two legs and wheels," was seen in the sky over Ashbourne by a local resident on Friday afternoon.

Mr Tom Lees was looking out of the window of his home in Green Road at about 2.15pm when he first saw the object.

Looking towards the cloudy sky, Mr Lees said he then saw how: "A moving object came into view which, as it got nearer, I first took it to be a helicopter."

"However, as it became closer, its shape was something I had never seen before. I rushed out of the house to view it as it passed by."

Mr Lees said he expected to hear the noise of an engine but didn't, as it appeared to be silent.

Added Mr Lees: "It was moving beneath the cloud at quite a high speed on a direct easterly course."

ASHBOURNE NEWS TELEGRAPH, Derbyshire, England - May 20, 1993 CR: T. Good

Strange lights above

Planetarium show's sights focus on stretching our imaginations

By Linda Quattrin
Staff Writer

THE SKY is clear and inky black. The moon casts its pale light on a lone Prairie farmhouse.

Suddenly, a brilliant red light shoots down over the barn and hovers with a pulsing glow. A chorus of dogs bark and horses whinny as the darkness fades into dawn.

What is this? The product of a bad dream? A wayward weather balloon? An unidentified flying object?

Those are things Ed Barker, a veteran producer at the Museum of Man and Nature's planetarium, wants people to ponder.

Amateur astronomer

"No one's asking anyone to believe," says Barker, also an amateur astronomer and celestial enthusiast.

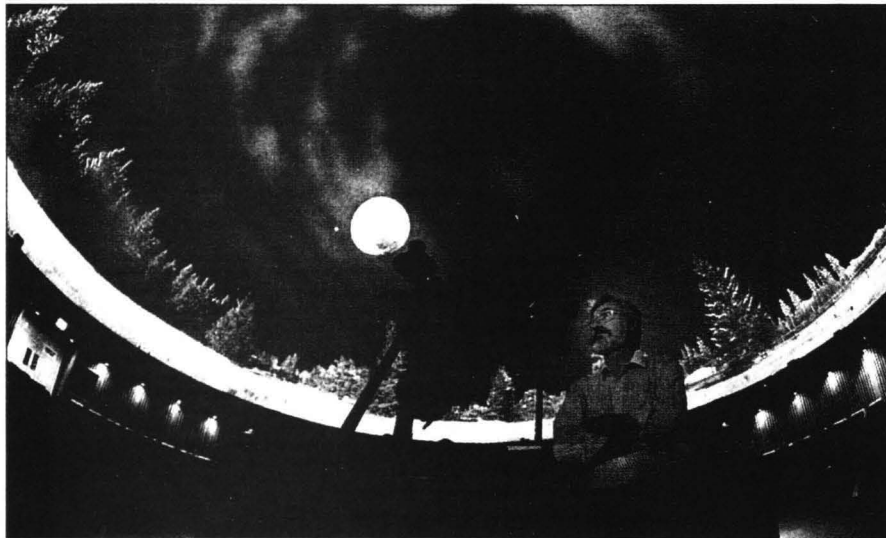
"I'm saying let's stretch our imaginations, shift our consciousness."

Barker is at work on the planetarium's latest show on UFOs, scheduled to run between October and December.

Combining theatrical effects - including the use of a new \$7,000 computer-controlled mirror - and documentary techniques, Barker will outline a brief history of extraterrestrial events in Canada.

And he will recreate about half a dozen unusual sightings, some explainable, and others that remain riddled with question marks.

Barker, also director of the Manitoba Centre for UFO Studies and provincial director for



WAYNE GLOWACKI/WINNIPEG FREE PRESS

Producer Ed Barker will outline a history of extraterrestrial events in Canada.

the Texas-based Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), is particularly interested in a pair of recent Canadian sightings.

But, as he is in the initial stages of his investigations, he won't describe the events or even reveal the provinces in which they occurred.

"Because then if it doesn't turn out there won't be any harm done," Consider, for example, a classic flub which occurred last summer in Uxbridge, a community north-east of Toronto.

The front page of a local newspaper headlined the supposed

sightings as UFOs in the area, but within two weeks, a MUFON investigation determined the eerie red glow in the newspaper photograph was actually parachute flares used in a search-and-rescue operation over a nearby lake.

One possibility

"They don't necessarily have to be alien spacecraft," says Barker, who will recreate the Uxbridge incident in the show to illustrate that point. "That's only one possibility of many."

Indeed, Barker says between 90 and 95 per cent of the half-dozen calls he gets weekly -

there are more during warm weather and after media UFO reports - are explainable. Some are planets, aircraft or weather phenomena.

Barker draws on his diverse experience as a trained pilot, former actor and one-time drug abuse counsellor to evaluate the validity of callers' claims and determine just how observant they are.

If a sighting remains inexplicable, Barker may conduct a longer interview with the caller, and if there is any physical evidence, scientists may be called in to offer their analysis.

UFO made circles in crops says US boffin

SENSATIONAL explanations for Wiltshire's mysterious crop circles have been criticised by an expert.

Dr Steven Greer, international director of the Centre for the Study of Extraterrestrial Intelligence in America, was in Devizes yesterday to talk about the circles which appear in fields throughout Wiltshire annually.

He has studied crop circles at Alton Barnes, near Marlborough, and said: "This issue is not about whether there is other intelligent life in the universe but how we as global citizens can interact with it."

He believes that crop circles are just one way in which extraterrestrials try to communicate.

"I am making some radical discoveries in an area of public

"We saw some amazing things at Alton Barnes"

knowledge that is often sensationalised, distorted and ridiculed," he says.

"Of course there are fakes but when I was here last year looking at circles on Strattons' Farm, Alton Barnes, we saw some amazing things."

The researchers last year claimed they saw a triangular-shaped craft in the sky, measuring up to 100ft across.

Fellow researcher Maria Ward, who claims to have seen the Alton Barnes UFO, said: "The videos and the cameras stopped working but we all saw it with our own eyes."

"It is important to believe and to be willing to take in what is out of the ordinary."

Dr Greer is also hosting a three-day working group seminar at Alton Barnes Coronation Hall and hopes to initiate an encounter with extraterrestrial intelligences using lights and specially-adapted cameras.

SWINDON EVENING ADVERTISER, Wiltshire, England - May 22, 1993 CR: T. Good

Probing the mystery of the crop circles phenomena

Hoaxes, hedgehogs or the result of winds? With summer approaching scientists are still toiling to explain crop circles. Simon Perry reports

SPARE A thought for physicist Professor Archie Roy.

The president of the Centre for Crop Circle Studies has been looking for grains of truth to explain the crop circles phenomenon for years.

But he is still perplexed as to what causes them and has no concrete theories - and with no theories he cannot understand the significance of the strange forms which have been annoying farmers and perplexing scientists for over a decade.

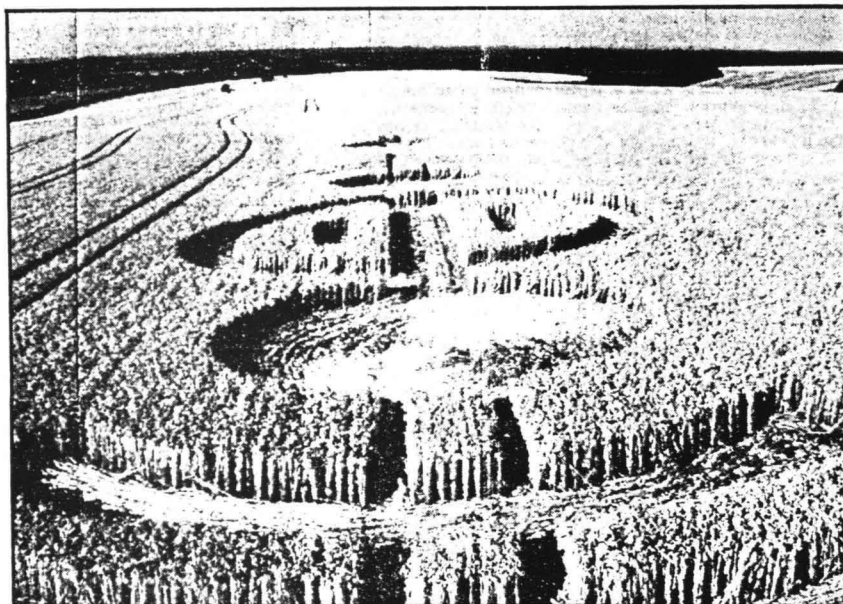
What he is sure of however is that they will return this summer.

About 500 sightings are recorded every year and we can expect hundreds of the shapes to appear in fields across mainly southern Britain.

"I would be flabbergasted if there were none this year," Prof Roy, of Glasgow University, said.

High in the minds of scientists are fears that they - and we - may be taken for a ride. Celebrated tricksters Dave Chorley and Doug Bower are said to be planning a book on their exploits but if only one crop circle is not a hoax then scientists have something to explain.

"A proportion are hoaxes but the question is how many. If they



PARANORMAL PHENOMENA: Scientists are unable to explain the crop circles mystery

were bogus, that would not explain why they appear in Canada and the US. Some of them have been so complicated they would have taken many hours to create and that would have been difficult at night," Prof Roy, the honorary senior research fellow in the university's department of physics and astronomy, added.

Today he is giving a talk to the Edinburgh International Science Festival. He will outline some of the ideas so far put forward -

many of which have their roots in so-called New Age philosophies. He is also planning to describe some of the various shapes which have emerged in fields across the world in the last 15 years.

"Some have said they are made by UFOs, or the earth crying out from pollution, and even hundreds of hedgehogs marching around."

"I have no theory. It is both irritating and intriguing to study.

As a scientist I should be a front runner in this, having studied it for years."

But Prof Roy, like his colleagues, will keep ploughing on to find the answer by studying the form the crop circles take and measuring them.

"It is a bit like stamp collecting. Once you collect everything you can begin to see patterns and then formulate get a theory which hopefully will solve the mystery."

Did you see this UFO?

MYSTERY surrounds the appearance of a UFO in Hayes last week.

A flying saucer-shaped object was seen to hover above the Barnhill School playing fields. Eye witness Sharon Selfridge, of Wentworth Crescent, was driving her mother, Jean, home at about 10.45pm on Monday last week when they saw the object.

"It was lit up really brightly," she said. "As I looked at it, it seemed to just disappear."

One theory is that the object was an airship, but Sharon said: "I don't think it was - it moved too fast."

There were also three small aircraft circling it. Though she has suffered some ribbing, she said: "I know I saw a flying saucer."

Police and RAF Northolt have not received any reports of the sighting.

●Did you see the Barnhill UFO? If so call the Gazette on 0895 258290 and ask for a Hayes reporter.

HAYES GAZETTE, London, England - May 26, 1993 CR: T. Good

WESTERN MAIL, Cardiff, Wales - April 28, 1993 CR: T. Good



Mutilation debate resurfaces

By MIKE PETERS
Tribune Staff Writer

3 recent animal deaths investigated

A controversial mystery has surfaced again among ranchers and state officials with the discovery Tuesday of a dead horse in northeastern Weld County and an accusation by the owner that her horse was mutilated.

Well-known northeast Weld County rancher Doris Williams found her favorite horse dead and possibly mutilated Tuesday, and she expressed theories that someone may have cut away sections of the horse "for testing."

Colorado State University veterinarians

this morning said the horse died of natural causes and are reluctant to call the death a mutilation. They say the damage may have come from predators eating the dead horse.

Williams, a former member of the Weld County Council and two-time county commissioner candidate, lives near Buckingham, 65 miles northeast of Greeley. She found her horse, Super Charger, about a half-mile from her ranch house early Tuesday.

Weld County sheriff's deputies called for a county truck to take the carcass to laborato-

ries at CSU for tests.

It appeared one eye had been removed, and there were smooth cutting-type marks around one ear and down the jaw. The skin had been removed from that area. It also appeared part of the tongue had been cut out.

While the edges of the skin appeared to have been cut smoothly by a knife, sheriff's deputies at the scene said that after an animal dies the skin may shrivel around the cut areas, making them appear smooth. Deputy Ron Richardson said he was reporting the incident

as an "unexplained death" until CSU experts examined the animal.

At CSU this morning, veterinarians who were performing an autopsy on the horse said it had died from a twisted bowel. Sheriff's spokesperson Margie Martinez said if a horse gets a stomach pain, it will sometimes roll on the ground continuously. "That could cause a twisting of the bowel and kill the horse."

Preliminary reports stated the veterinarians believe the cuts on the animal's head and neck were "jagged-edged," and probably made by

predators. Dr. David Getzy of CSU said this morning that the Department of Wildlife will further investigate the head and neck wounds to determine their cause.

In possible mutilations of the past, some people have said predatory animals such as coyotes were responsible for the cuts and missing organs.

Williams, however, does not believe predators are responsible.

"These cuts weren't made by animals," she said. "That horse was cut with a knife, and it's easy to see."

Dale Green, a friend of Williams who was with her when the horse was found, agrees.

"Also, I've seen a lot of horses and cattle die, and there is always feces from them when they die, but there was no sign of that here," Green said. He added that dead animals eaten by predators are entered through the anal area, stomach or other soft regions. "They wouldn't eat the bony area of the face first," Williams added.

It's the third alleged mutilation found in Weld County in the past two months. Deputies were called two months ago to a ranch north of Mead, where they found a dead cow with a missing calf embryo. "It looked like someone had cut out the rectum, uterus and took the entire calf from the womb," said deputy Duff Knott. "We didn't find a trace of the calf anywhere."

Three weeks ago, another alleged mutilation occurred a few miles south of the Williams home on the ranch of Delbert Castor. "It looked to me like someone took the tongue, lips and female organs," Castor said. "We received a letter about the tests at CSU, and they said it appeared there had been some cutting with a sharp instrument around the lips and tongue."

In recent months, there have been reports of other mutilations of cattle in the San Luis Valley in southwestern Colorado. In the 1970s, southwestern and northeastern Colorado ranchers reported what they believed were cattle mutilations. In most of those cases, the debate regarding predators also raged.

Super Charger was a favorite horse of Williams because she'd had him about 14 years. She rode him during her campaign for county commissioner in 1980.

"He was a gelding, and someone said he was just a nondescript quarterhorse," Williams said, "But



MIKE PETERS / Greeley Tribune

Weld County Road and Bridge Department employees use a power lift to carry a dead horse onto a truckbed Tuesday afternoon. The horse, owned by Doris Williams, apparently died of natural causes, but ranchers in the area believe the horse also was mutilated.

when I rode him, we knew each other. He was a good horse."

The horse was about 15 years old and small for a quarterhorse, Williams said, "but he was in good health."

Williams said she last saw the horse Sunday. "Then about 3 a.m. Monday, the dogs woke me, barking at something. I just yelled at them to quiet down and went back to sleep," Williams said her neighbor said his dog woke him about the same time.

She believes it was then — about 3 a.m. Monday — that someone killed Super Charger.

"You hear all these stories about cults and aliens and all that, but I don't believe in those," Williams said. "But I wouldn't be surprised if it was some government testing on animals."

She speculated that if the government wanted to test animals for possible radiation contamination from the many Atlas missile silos in northern Weld County, they would have to do it secretly.

"I'm not going to let this drop," Williams said.

HERALD, Durango, CO
April 7, 1993

CR: K. & K. Hanohano

Cows mutilated in San Luis Valley

The Associated Press

SAN LUIS — Authorities are investigating two cases of mutilated cows similar to a series of mysterious livestock killings that occurred a decade ago in this southern Colorado valley.

In both recent cases, surgical-like cuts were made to remove the eyes and udders of the animals, law enforcement officers said.

"No tracks, no footprints, no signs of anything that could have killed them. We didn't find bullet holes or cartridges or wounds," said Costilla County Sheriff Billy Maestas.

Las Animas County Sheriff Lou Girodo, who has investigated livestock mutilations for about 20 years, was puzzled by the recent killings.

"We just don't have anything to follow up on," he said of the mutilation case near Weston. "There's no blood, no signs of a struggle, no evidence at the scene indicating anyone was there. I can tell you what it isn't. I don't think it's pranksters or the occult or anything like that."

From the late 1960s until the late 1980s, cattle mutilations occurred on a regular basis in the valley. Some were attributed to predators, vandals and even cult activity, but others were never explained.

In many cases, surgical-like incisions were made to remove the animals' eyes, ears, tongue or sex organs. Authorities said the carcasses were found in fields without any tracks around them or signs of struggle.

Eerie lights again linked to mutilations of cattle

Reports of glow coincide with livestock deaths that began in November

By Dick Foster
Rocky Mountain News Southern Bureau

SAN LUIS — Almost the same time that cattle mutilations began anew in southern Colorado's San Luis Valley last November, people began witnessing unexplained lights in the night sky.

The reports come not only from residents of the valley, but from those who were passing through.

"I was in the backcountry around Saguache for the November hunting season and I sighted some stuff in the middle of the night," said John Browning, a 54-year-old Denverite.

"I got up about 3 o'clock in the morning and I saw a bunch of lights overhead. There must have been 15 or 16 of them. They were in a

kind of semi-circle, and there were four lights moving around in the center of the circle, and there wasn't a sound in the sky."

The array was about 1,000 feet in the air and "huge," probably a half-mile across, he said. It bathed his whole camp in light, but he could not distinguish a structure attached to the lights.

In early December, Andrea and Mike Nisbet of Crestone awoke in the predawn hours to find a bright yellow-orange light shining through the bedroom windows.

"The light was coming from directly above our house. I saw this big, round yellow-orange light in the reflection off our van outside," she said. "We were both amazed at how bright it was outside. And there was no sound."

The reports coincide with the recurrence of cattle mutilations in the San Luis Valley after the incidents seemed to halt suddenly several years ago.

Retired Costilla County Sheriff Ernest Sandoval, who held office for 16 years, said he received reports of unusual lights from "all over the county" during the mutilation years, and once saw "very bright lights" on one of two ranches owned by Dr. Manuel Vigil east of San Luis.

"On patrol about 2 a.m. I witnessed some very bright lights around San Pablo. I figured one of the ranchers was loading livestock," said Sandoval. "The next morning the doctor called me and said they had mutilated one of his cows. I told him what I had seen at the other ranch, and we went out there and found another one mutilated. That was two in one night."

In November, ranchers near San Luis and in neighboring Las Animas County found two dead cows whose eyes and udders were cut away.

During the earlier mutilations in the 1970s, strange lights also were sighted.

John Herrera, 38, recalls a night in the mid-1970s when he and three other men watched a friend's field at the Taylor Mountains east of San Luis, where mutilations had occurred.

Suddenly, said Herrera, an object with two lights, one reddish, one greenish, hovered about treetop high above their car.

When the men raced for home, the object followed. "We were going at speeds up to 100 miles an hour and it was right above the car," he said.

The men alerted friends in Chama who watched the mountain from their yard. Soon, Herrera said, "we saw a humongous light that lit up the whole mountain like day time. It went up and up and up into the heavens."

Sandoval is convinced helicopters are linked to the mutilations, citing an eyewitness account from the mid-1970s.

"This young couple coming into San Luis passed a property where 17 cattle had been mutilated. And there was this chopper that had a cow in a harness hanging from it, right over the highway," he said.

"They drove straight to the sheriff's office. We left right away and drove out there, about 6 miles east of San Luis. The only evidence we found was where the cow urinated in the center of the highway. Later on we found a mutilated animal about a mile from

there," said Sandoval.

Astronomer Paul Van Slyke, who operates the Black Forest Observatory north of Colorado Springs, has no explanation for the mutilations, but says many things will cause what witnesses see as "strange lights in the sky."

"I've been looking up in the sky for over 30 years. I've seen some spectacular things, but I've never seen anything I can't explain," he said. But Van Slyke also says he believes the "odds are 100% that there is other life" in the universe.

CR: K. & K. Hanohano

Horse is killed and mutilated on farm near Independence

Authorities in western Hennepin County are investigating the death of a horse that was apparently killed and mutilated over the weekend on a farm near Independence.

"It sure appears it could be a cult or satanic-type thing," said Sgt. Ray McCoy of the West Hennepin Public Safety Department. "We're still looking into a motive."

An employee at the farm went at about 7 a.m. Saturday to feed five young horses that were kept in a pasture about a quarter-mile from the house, said Sally Brown, owner of Fox Meadow Farm. The employee found one of the yearling stud colts lying on the ground.

The palomino colt had been killed and its eye had been removed with

surgical precision, Brown said.

"There were no apparent wounds that would be the cause of death," she said Wednesday. "Our vet said that it did appear that how ever the horse died, it died quickly."

"I think it's satanical or cult-oriented," Brown said. "The fellow that had looked at the eye said it was such

a perfect circle. Very little blood. My vet said he could not have surgically performed that precisely. He said whoever did this knew what he was doing and knew how to handle a knife."

The horse also had cuts on its penis, anus and on one of its front legs, Brown said.

It was taken to the University of Minnesota School of Veterinary Medicine for an autopsy. Results haven't been released.

Brown breeds and raises about 75 quarter horses for show purposes at the farm.

Touchet Valley Ramblings

By Vance Orchard -- Waitsburg Times Columnist

Of course, most who are steeped in the Bigfoot/Sasquatch matter, are aware of the sighting in the Northwest of what is probably the first Bigfoot tracks by white man.

Indians of the Northwest have had the creature in their lore for centuries, or as long as these people have been here in all likelihood.

It was in a letter exchange several years ago with Clifford Drury, prime chronicler of the Whitman saga, that he informed me of the sighting by explorer David Thompson. This man had made his way across the continent, discovering many "firsts" for the geographers in the early years of the 19th century.

But, picture this scenario

.... It is early January, 1811, and the party led by Thompson is struggling to make any headway.

That in itself was not a new experience; it was something the hardy Thompson party had endured for several months!

Now, however, as 1811 opened, the men were making slow, very arduous headway up the Athabasca River. It was in the vicinity of present day Jasper, Alberta, that Thompson recorded the sighting of Bigfoot tracks.

Rowland Bond's great 1970 book, "The Original Northwest, David Thompson," contains this passage:

"As they moved deeper into the snowy peaks of the Continental Divide west of Jasper, Alta., their problems multiplied and the first five days of the New Year 1811 the temperature did not rise above minus 20 degrees.

"The Fur Trade version of the Sasquatch or Abominable Snowman was recalled by the superstitious voyageurs when they came upon some mysterious tracks Jan. 7, 1811. They measured 14 by 8 inches.

"The track was well defined and we could see it for a full 100 yards (Thompson records) ... proceeding from the north to south. We did not attempt to follow it, we had not time for it, and hunters, eager as they are to follow and shoot every animal, made no attempt to follow this beast, for what could the balls of our fowling guns do against such an animal?"

"Reports from old times had made the head branches of this river, and the mountains in the

vicinity, the abode of one or more very large animals, to which I never appeared to give credence for these reports appeared to arise from that fondness for the marvelous so common to mankind.

"But, the sight of the track of that large beast staggered me and I often thought of it, yet never could bring myself to believe such an animal existed, but I thought it might be the track of some monster bear."

Thompson truly was reluctant to give credence to the tales of his hunters about the monstrous manlike creature which apparently made the huge tracks.

"I had known these men for years and could always depend on their word (Thompson noted). They had no interest to deceive themselves or other persons. There is no direct evidence of its (Bigfoot) existence. Yet, when I think of all I have seen and heard, if put on my oath, I could neither assert nor deny its existence ... we hastened our march as much as possible."

If you'd like to read more of David Thompson, certainly one of the greatest explorers of the Pacific Northwest, the book by Rowland Bond, cited above, is one to peruse. My thanks to Harriet Robinson, who, knowing my interest in Bigfoot, called my attention to the book and loaned it to me. The sections about Bigfoot had been plainly marked by her!

A new Bigfoot newsletter is but one of several which have blossomed in recent times. It came my way the other day from one of the new organizations formed to publicize this creature, found in every state in the Lower 48 at least.

This latest newsletter comes from the N.E. Bigfoot Center, 21 Benham St., Apt. F, Bristol CT 06010. Bill Green is the Center's director.

Besides soliciting subscriptions and/or membership in the Center, Green also asks for articles and pictures about Bigfoot for his newsletter.

Coming westerly, at Bloomington, Minn., is Mark A. Hall, who edits a publication aimed at a broader audience than just Bigfoot: "Wonders...Seeking the Truth in a Universe of Mysteries." Hall and his firm, Hall Publications, just started printing his quarterly

in April of 1992. One of the most fascinating was the September issue, devoted to tales of "True Giants," manlike creatures bigger even than Bigfoot!

Hall's booklets hold a wide array of interest about monsters to titillate the most jaded, from what I can see of his production.

Hall's address is 9215 Nicollet So., 104, Bloomington MN 55420.

And then, as far West as we can go on this thing, there is the Western Bigfoot Society, recently organized by a Bigfoot booster, Ray Crowe of Portland.

This group meets monthly, featuring a speaker versed in Bigfoot and there is also a monthly newsletter. I just got the first one, and it truly is bulging with many reports of the creature. These stories have been turned in to Crowe and are not recent in many instances, but several are highly interesting accounts of "close encounters of the third kind," etc.

Want more information about this one?

Crowe's address is 8632 N. Lombard St., Portland OR 97203.

My all time favorite newsletter about Bigfoot, however, is that which comes out of Whittier, Calif., "Bigfoot Co-op." This is a quarterly and is edited by Constance Cameron, anthropologist at California State University, Fullerton, CA. Other organizers and contributors included several top name people in Bigfoot research.

You can reach the Bigfoot Co-op at: 14602 Montevideo Drive, Whittier CA 90605.

While the Walla Walla area Bigfoot enthusiasts have no formal organization, we are interested in reports from the Blue Mountains. For many years, Wes Sumerlin has been the "point man" in these matters. If you have information you'd like to share, contact him at 525-5779. Or, drop in on the Wednesday morning (10:30) coffee sessions at the Blue Mountain Mall's eatery section.

TIMES, Waitsburg, WA

March 25, 1993

HERALD JOURNAL, Syracuse, NY - April 16, 1993

A sound, a smudge, a mystery to solve

It started with thumping on the roof. It ended with muddy prints on the front window.

In between, the shadow of a hairy, humped-over figure passed by her window.

Ruth Fox isn't sure what happened at her home in DeWitt the night of the last full moon, March 23. A police officer she called to check out the marks told her the visitor was an animal.

"It definitely wasn't a raccoon," she said.

She didn't use the word, but I sensed "Bigfoot" on her mind. Ruth called me after she read a recent column about reports of giant

He opened the curtain on the front window. "That was when we saw the prints," he explained. "I'm sure they weren't there the day before."

They were still there, on the outside pane of glass, when I dropped by.

The larger print — it measured about 7 inches long — looked to be smeared. It had claws, or toes, at one end, pads at the other.

Several inches below it was a second muddy print, about 4 inches long. It had a small hand, or paw.

The DeWitt police officer who came to the house didn't write a report on Ruth's mystery. "Settled on arrival," a computer note read.

Ruth doesn't agree. "There is something huge around here," she said.



DICK CASE

upright hairy creatures in Northern New York and Vermont.

She sounded a bit frazzled when she called last week. Did I want to come out and have a look at the mud marks on the window? Sure.

When I arrived on Orrick Road, a block south of Erie Boulevard East, Ruth said she'd gone to sleep in her first-floor bedroom at the front of the house that night. Noise above her head on the roof woke her.

"It was boom, boom, boom, like two feet clomping along," she explained. "And the rafters creaked."

Ruth's son, Gary, was home. The sound stirred him, too.

"I heard a big bang on the roof," he said. "It went on for about 15 minutes. I woke me, but my mother was already up."

Then the clomping stopped and Ruth said she "heard it slide off the roof into the snow."

And then? She saw "something" go by two corner windows. A silhouette moved past the drawn shades.

Ruth described the silhouette to me as an upright, hairy creature "with the head of an ape." It seemed bent over.

The figure disappeared into the next yard north of her property.

Later, Gary checked outside for footprints. He couldn't find any, and the snow hadn't started to melt.



LORA GORODIN/Contributing photographer
SOMETHING LEFT this smudge on the window of Ruth Fox's home in DeWitt.

'Taos Hum' Disturbs Artistic Colony's Good Vibrations

By Sue Anne Pressley
Washington Post Staff Writer

TAOS, N.M.—In this sensitive artists' colony, this adobe Georgetown of boutiques and galleries, residents are asking each other a serious question: Do you hear what I hear?

Sara Allen hears a sound like "a tractor running, off in the distance." K.C. Grams hears a sound of "power lines throbbing, with a whiny quality." Bob Saltzman says the racket comes in three parts: "A low grinding, a kind of staticky hissing, and a high ringing sound."

And Pam Ortega, well, she doesn't hear a thing, but she's open to the possibility.

Whatever it is, this phenomenon dubbed "the Taos hum" is driving some people batty—distracting them from work, interfering with their rest, shattering quiet time.

"The only way we can get to sleep at night is to turn on a CD of the ocean," said Saltzman, 48, a photographer who lives with his dancer-wife, Catanya, a few miles outside town.

The Saltzmans said they first heard the sound—if indeed it can be described as that—in the spring of 1991, and since then, have learned that hundreds of other Taos residents also have been plagued. The couple organized a written survey, discovering that many people were relieved to find they were not the only ones hearing something strange. They wrote a flurry of letters to government officials, and they spoke up with others at "town meetings" held periodically in the area by Rep. Bill Richardson (D-N.M.).

At first, Richardson admitted, he thought the complaint leapt from the imaginations of his "more colorful constituents," but now—though he has not heard the hum himself—he is convinced there is a legitimate problem.

Recently, at the behest of Richardson



K.C. Grams says she hears what sounds like "power lines throbbing, with a whiny quality."

and another member of Congress, a team of investigators from the University of New Mexico, the Sandia and Los Alamos national laboratories, and the Phillips Laboratory of the U.S. Air Force tried, unsuccessfully, to identify the sound. But the scientists and engineers say they do not doubt that residents there are hearing something.

Working for a week last month, the doz-

en investigators tried to take measurements using electromagnetic, seismic and acoustic sensors. (The hum could not be detected with the acoustic sensors, meaning it may not even be a sound.) And they asked a dozen Taos residents to use sound-generating equipment to create a noise that matches their perception of the hum. Everyone came up with a slightly different frequency, all on the low end of the

scale, from 40 to 80 hertz. Human hearing tends to range between 20 and 20,000 hertz, a measure of the number of cycles per second in a sound wave.

"The people who do hear it, they're certainly sensing and responding to something. I can't say it's imaginary at all," said Joe Mullins, the chairman of the mechanical engineering department at the University of New Mexico who headed the team. While at least one of the investigators said he had been aware of the so-called hum, Mullins said he could not hear it.

Many Taos residents still are straining their ears, and hearing nothing more than the crickets and the tree frogs of a cool Taos night. "I have no idea what they are talking about," said Sylvia Wilson, a store clerk. "Maybe I'm just not one of those sensitive types."

Located 70 miles north of Santa Fe in the pastel-hued Sangre de Cristo Mountains, Taos long has had a reputation for attracting people with an artistic and sometimes offbeat bent. Writer D.H. Lawrence loved Taos, as did artist Georgia O'Keeffe, and together the art galleries and the winter ski resorts draw nearly 3 million tourists annually to this quaint town of 5,000. Over the years, it has become a chic haven for people tired of the hectic pace of city life, searching for quiet and inner peace.

But Taos also is located squarely in a state that is famous, or infamous, as a testing ground for numerous projects of the federal government, many of them defense-related and top secret. And some residents bothered by the sound say they believe it emanates from one or another of these projects, possibly involving the most sophisticated in communications equipment.

Richardson agreed that the federal government is probably the culprit, but said he has been unable to identify a source of the problem. The Defense Department and the Air Force have denied any involvement, but Richardson said he is not swayed.

"My gut feeling," he said, "is that it's some defense-related project, not necessarily by the Department of Defense. I don't think anybody's doing a coverup. . . . It may not be an urgent priority, but because my constituents are bothered, it's definitely something to look into."

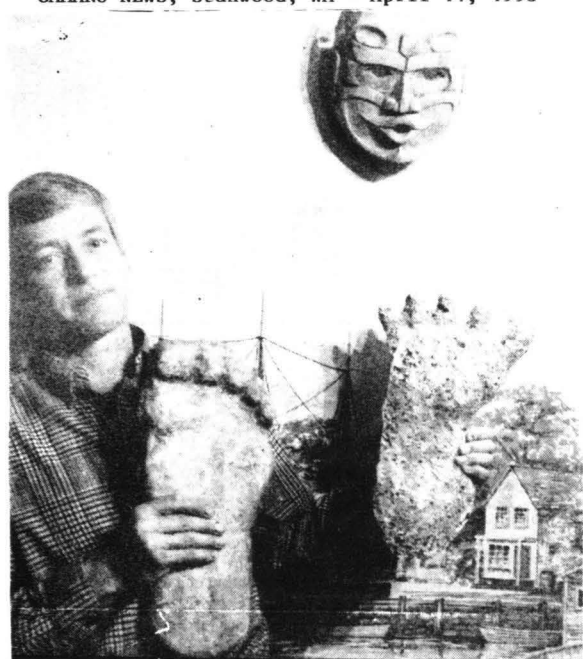
But Taos residents who are living with the constant buzz said it is surely a priority with them. They complain of headaches that aspirin cannot allay, nausea, sometimes a thudding vibration in the chest. They say their patience is gone, their attention spans diminished. There is no relief, they said, because the sound penetrates through windows, walls and ordinary household noise. It is always there.

Steve Walters, a guitarist and music teacher, said he first became aware of the problem two months ago, but realizes now it must have been with him, poking at the edges of his brain, for a long time.

"It was a pretty dramatic first moment," said Walters, 37. "I had spent a week here doing a personal retreat, just being very quiet. I practice yoga and I do meditation, just about four or five days of that disciplined work. I fell asleep and woke up about 4 o'clock in the morning with this very vivid nightmare in which a big car, a GTO like people used to have, all souped-up, was idling right outside my bedroom window. . . . It was very Stephen King-ish."

"I woke up very quickly from this awful, menacing dream and I could still hear the idling of the car—it was like everybody's worst nightmare to wake up from a dream and have it still continue," he said. "I went running around the house, checking, but nothing was on. I cut off all the circuit breakers in the house, and I could still hear it. Then it occurred to me, this was the sound everybody was talking about."

CAMANO NEWS, Stanwood, WA - April 14, 1993



'Bigfoot'

John Andrews, Camano Island resident, with two plaster cast Bigfoot prints and a Bella Coola Indian mask after speaking to the Stanwood-Camano Kiwanis Club Thursday about his almost 30-year hobby of investigating Sasquatch leads. Andrews believes the thousands of diverse reports and sightings of Bigfoot over the years are more than coincidence and behind the ability of pranksters to fake all the evidence. He is a full-time public works employee with Snohomish County, so he can only head for remote hills to follow up his probe on weekends and vacations. The mask shows the figure whistling, a sound many Indian tribes ascribe to Bigfoot. One of the casts he is holding, he says, came from the Siskyou Mountains in Northern California through a friend who allegedly found the print. The other he poured himself in the Blue Mountains near Walla Walla, where he says he once came across 50 huge footprints.

NEWS, Detroit, MI - March 18, 1993

Bermuda Triangle legend is awash in fact, fiction

By Hugh McCann
THE DETROIT NEWS

For many a sailor or pilot, entering the Bermuda Triangle is spooky — like walking under a ladder.

In this 200,000-square-mile section of the western Atlantic, also called "the Devil's Triangle," more than 100 ships and aircraft and as many as 1,000 people have vanished without a trace in recent decades.

The disappearance of well-known Metro Detroit restaurateur Chuck Muer, his wife Betty, and another couple, George and Lynne Drummey Jr. of Grosse Pointe Park, as they sailed through the triangle may draw new attention to the mysterious stretch of water bounded by Bermuda, Miami and Puerto Rico.

There is no mystery for Petty Officer Stephen C. Sapp, spokesman for the Coast Guard in Miami.

"The majority of disappearances can be attributed to the area's unique environmental features," he said Wednesday, including sudden storms and the fast-flowing Gulf Stream, which can carry a ship — or wreckage — 120 miles in one day.

But official explanations have failed to sink a persistent belief that the disappearances are caused by strange or supernatural phenomena.

At least 10 magazine articles and books have probed the triangle mystery, including the claim that this region of the ocean is the site of the legendary lost continent of Atlantis.

UFOs buffs and students of the paranormal suggest that the area is the location of intense concentrations of magnetic force or the site of a "time warp," where past and future intersect the present.

"The U.S. Coast Guard is not impressed with supernatural explanations of disasters," Sapp said.

The Coast Guard has warned that modern-day pirates have been active in the area hijacking vessels.

One of the boats belonged to a former Rochester, Mich., couple — William and Patty Kameron. After their blood-stained yacht was found abandoned and adrift in Bahamian waters in 1980, their son, Bill Jr., said he believed his parents had been "slaughtered by pirates."

The triangle's most famous incident — the one that gave it its name — involved the "Lost Squadron."

In 1945, five Navy torpedo bombers, with nine crew members, vanished while on a routine training mission. They suddenly lost their bearings for no apparent reason.

"Everything is wrong . . . strange," the flight leader radioed his ground control. "We can't be sure of any direction Even the ocean doesn't look as it should."

No wreckage was found, not even an oil slick. A Navy inquiry board found no logical explanation.

"We don't know what the hell is going on out there," one member of the investigating board said. "They vanished as completely as if they had flown to Mars," said another.

UFOs buffs speculated that high-intensity magnetism lured the airplanes to their doom.

Sapp dismisses such speculation. "Some exceptional magnetic values have been reported," Sapp said, "but none to make the triangle more unusual than any other place."

"It has been our experience that the nature and the unpredictability of mankind outdo science fiction stories many times each year."

'Wacky' science thrives at tiny Stanford-based society

Journal probes reincarnation, Martian 'evidence'

By Keay Davidson
EXAMINER SCIENCE WRITER

You're a scientist who studies psychic phenomena, UFOs, reincarnation, extinct Martians, ESP or sea monsters, but orthodox scientific journals won't publish your research. "Too wacky," they scoff.

So who you gonna call? The Society for Scientific Exploration! "Wacky" science is the *raison*

d'être of the Stanford-based society. It's small — about 400 members worldwide — and its quarterly Journal of Scientific Exploration looks like any other scientific journal: peer-reviewed articles with footnotes, leaden prose and logarithmic charts.

Its members believe that subjects such as UFOs and ESP shouldn't be left to gullible amateurs but deserve to be scrutinized via the scientific method — through controlled experiments, analyzed with the latest computerized and statistical techniques.

The journal may be the world's only scientific periodical with the

temerity to subtitle an article "A Laboratory Replication of a Miracle."

In its seventh year, this handsome quarterly has become the journal of last resort for scientists whose research is far out — so far out, in some cases, that their orthodox colleagues may scorn them as cranks, and their bosses may deny them funds or lab space.

"I think we're just babes crawling on the floor of the universe," says Stanford University materials scientist William A. Tiller, who thinks his psychic experiments may explain historical miracles —

for example, Jesus' transformation of water into wine.

Because of his effort to show how volunteers could "psychically" control the motion of electrons in a scientific instrument, Tiller's colleagues "would prefer I was doing work at another institution," he jokes. "If I hadn't been tenured when I was doing this (research), I might not still be here."

Many journal articles are the veriest nonsense, sometimes based on questionable statistics and data collection, skeptics say.

"They tend to begin with a bias that things go bump in the night," charges Paul Kurtz, head of the Committee for Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal, a Buffalo, N.Y.-based group.

One of the world's best-known astrophysicists, Thomas Gold of Cornell University, wrote an essay for the journal a few years ago. But he says he didn't realize how much

emphasis the journal would put on topics such as UFOs and reincarnation, and because of that "I would not submit an article to them now. I don't believe in UFOs or reincarnation."

But Eugene Mallove, an MIT- and Harvard-trained scientist who quit his job as chief science writer for MIT because of the campus' "bigoted, appalling" response to the "cold-fusion" controversy, considers it "a wonderful journal." Cold-fusion backers claim they can generate enormous amounts of energy using a simple tabletop device, but most scientists haven't been able to replicate their claims.

Society member Mallove is working with a company promoting cold-fusion development. "Many people who used to be friendly with me basically never continued our friendships — they just ignored me," he said. "They probably think I've gone crazy."

You can turn to Science and Nature magazines to learn mainstream scientific news — such as what's happening in plate tectonics research, or what the Ulysses space probe is learning as it speeds toward the sun. But if you're into spooks and space visitors, turn to the journal. Among other subjects, it has had articles on:

- "Sunken" prehistoric cities off the Bahamas.
- Efforts to control the motion of microbes psychically, by researchers at the University of Delaware, and to predict computer simulations of coin-tossing, at Princeton.

- Correlations between geomagnetic storms and cancer.
- The use of faith healing to regrow amputated limbs of salamanders (the subject of a recent article by four researchers in Orinda).

- Photographic evidence from



EXAMINER/KIM KOMENICH
Peter Sturrock with metal that purportedly came from a UFO.

space probes of "a past humanoid civilization ... on Mars." The data include "what appear to be large carved faces," researchers write.

- Unknown sea creatures. "Various lines of soft evidence converge upon the tentative conclusion that an unclassified sea-animal of significant size is living, or at least recently lived, in the ocean waters of British Columbia," reports Michael D. Swords of Western Michigan University.

Critics question the journal's scientific standards.

"I think they're good people, but I don't think they're necessarily always objective. ... They're people who really want to believe in something and find evidence for it," says Kendrick Frazier, editor of the Committee for Scientific Investigation's journal, *Skeptical Inquirer*.

"I don't necessarily believe everything I publish in the journal either," responds Journal of Scientific Exploration managing editor Bernhard Haisch, an astrophysicist. "But I still think they deserve to be discussed and looked at scientifically."

Back from the dead

A major Society for Scientific Exploration figure is Ian Stevenson of the University of Virginia. In the journal, he has presented what he describes as evidence for reincarnation and, more recently, the idea that "a pregnant woman may be so frightened by the sight of some deformity on another person that her baby will be affected by a similar defect."

The supermarket tabloids make millions selling similar stories, but fortune has eluded the journal. The editors admit they're mystified by its failure to become more than a "well-kept secret" with only several hundred subscribers.

Last year Haisch told readers it faced "a life-threatening budget deficit." It also lost a measure of prestige when it was dropped by its distinguished long-time publisher, Pergamon, which had troubles of its own connected with the financial collapse of its owner, the late Robert Maxwell.

Now the journal is back on its feet. It's being printed by a private firm in Kansas, and its donations include a life-giving grant of \$15,000 from a Las Vegas philanthropist.

The society's president, Peter Sturrock, became interested in fringe science in the 1970s. Someone sent him metallic fragments from an alleged flying saucer crash in South America. He had the fragments chemically analyzed and concluded they were highly purified magnesium — interesting, but hardly evidence of alien visitors.

His interest in UFOs apparently hasn't hurt his academic career: He is director of Stanford's Center for Space Science and Astrophysics, and recently won an award from the American Institute for Aeronautics and Astronautics for his astronomical research.

Other society members take their lumps.

When Albuquerque, N.M., geophysicist John Derr and another scientist suggested in a different journal that alleged sightings of a glowing Virgin Mary were electromagnetic "plasmas," some colleagues ridiculed the idea. These luminous clouds of electrons and ions might form when movement on earthquake faults strips electrons from rocks, Derr suggested.

"The hard-core skeptics think their duty, as a hammer, is to hit anything that's a nail," Derr complains. "Why be a scientist if you're not going to investigate new and interesting things?"



EXAMINER/KIM KOMENICH
The Journal of Scientific Exploration's staff — Dr. Peter Sturrock, founder, left, Marsha Sims, assistant editor, and Dr. Bernard Haisch, managing editor — stand behind a poster showing sunspots.

PROGRESS, Rahway, NJ - April 15, 1993 CR: S. Barrera

'Monster' seen in Milton Lake

By Jeff Jotz
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The *Progress* has heard rumors of an alleged sighting of a serpentine creature living in the waters of Milton Lake.

According to Hazlewood Avenue resident and local artist Sheila O. Barerra, a "friend from the Elks Club" told Barerra he saw what he described as a "monster" in Milton Lake while fishing. Barerra noted the creature has been named "Miltie" in honor of the lake he supposedly calls home.

"This fellow did not want to release his name," she said, "but if you go down there often, I'm sure you would see him."

Barerra's work will be displayed in an exhibit slated for a gallery in Davison, Mich., now through May 31. She said her work will also be hanging in the Left Bank Gallery in nearby Flint during May.

"He comes by every three years," said Barerra, tongue in cheek, "last having been seen on April 1, 1991."

Barerra said she has been painting lake scenes, complete with lake monsters, since 1985. Although she said she has never personally seen one of the mysterious creatures, her favorite underwater denizen is "Champ," who is purported to inhabit the waters of Lake Champlain in New York State. Barerra, who was featured in the *Progress* last year, said Champ was her first subject in her series of over 100 paintings of lakes and their monsters. She currently has an acrylic rendition of Champ hanging in the Hartnett Art Gallery, adjacent to the Union Count Arts Center on Irving Street.

"When I visit areas with these creatures," said Barerra, "people tell me that this thing is their mascot. Maybe we should make Miltie our mascot. I understand he would be good for the tourist business."